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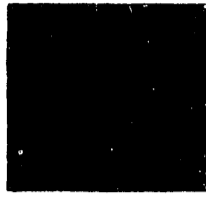
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EASTERN

F.O.
371

1947



PALESTINE

File No. 46

pp. 3927 - 4155

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Reference

FO 371 / 61777

CLOSED
UNTIL

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360

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E 3927

1947

PALESTINE

MAY

2

Registry Number

E 3927/44/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

41. K. 241

Dated

New York

Received in Registry

1359

10 May 1947

12

Ad Hoc, Special Committee.
Report New York 11 1947 (E 3927/44/31)
States two sub-committees of Joint Committee met
8 May. One considered, and reported 13 applications
which had been received in addition to those
from Search Agency and Arab League Committee. For
a hearing during special session of the Assembly.
Second sub-committee to report of terms of reference
for investigation Committee. Text to follow.

Last Paper.

8910

(Minutes.)

Table
(7 columns)
12/5

References.

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(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

61777

(Action completed.)

J. G. 19/5

(Index.)

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper.

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EN CLAIR

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUT.

E 3927

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

1-3

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to United Nations).

12-11-47 No: 1359
10th May 1947

D.11.06 a.m. 10th May 1947

R. 5.27 p.m. 10th May 1947

Repeated to Jerusalem
Moscow - Immediate
and Washington Saving

4 4 4 4

IMPORTANT

GLANT

My telegram No: 1357 ✓

Palestine.

Two sub-committees of the first committee met on the morning of the 9th May. One of these considered the 13 applications which had been received in addition to those from the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee, for a hearing during the special session of the Assembly. The sub-committee report advising that none of the 13 should be heard was adopted by the first committee.

2. The other sub-committee had before it three drafts of the terms of reference for the investigating committee. These were combined into a single text contained in my immediately following telegram for use as a working paper by the first committee.

3. During the discussion of this draft by the first committee in the afternoon Mr Shertok asked to be allowed to speak. This request was granted and Shertok expressed the anxiety of the Jewish Agency at the terms of paragraph 3 of the draft. He agreed that independence should be an objective but added that it was not the sole purpose of the mandate. He therefore wished the Committee to add to this paragraph the words " and various other issues connected with the future of Palestine". He also asked

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for the insertion in paragraph 6 of a reference to "the Jewish people". He hope the terms of reference would not contain anything tending to make it more difficult for the Jewish Agency to co-operate with the Investigating Committee.

4. The Norwegian and South African delegates said that they interpreted "the problem of Palestine" as including the problem of the homeless Jews in Europe. This was sharply contested by the Syrian Egyptian and Iraqi delegates.

5. I have reported separately on my statement concerning the intentions of His Majesty's Government. The statement of views by a representative of the Arab Higher Committee also made on the 9th May will be summarised in a later telegram.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem and Moscow as my telegrams Nos:6 and 187 respectively.

[Repeated to Moscow].

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem].

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Reference **FO 371** / **61777**

361

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E 3928

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PALESTINE

12 MAY

Registry Number } E 3928/46/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

A. K. Del.

New York.

1360.

10, May 1948

12

Political, Special Committee.
Rpts New York 61 1359 (E 3927/46/21)
transmit text of terms of reference
for investigating Committee, for use as
a working paper.

Last Paper.

3927

U.N. Dept. - Please see also E 3927

[Signature]
(S.E. CHAE)
12/5

References.

This seems generally satisfactory.

(Print.)

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(Action completed.)

(Index.)

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Next Paper.

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E 3928

6

En Clair

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1,360.

D: 11.50 a.m. 10th May, 1947.

10th May, 1947.

R: 7.30 p.m. 10th May, 1947.

Repeated to: Jerusalem,)
Moscow,) Immediate
Washington Saving.

000 000 000

IMPORTANT

GIANT

My immediately preceding telegram.

Following is text.

[Begins]

Whereas the General Assembly of the United Nations has been called into special session for the purpose of constituting and instructing a special committee to prepare for the consideration at the next regular session of the Assembly of the future Government of Palestine.

The General Assembly resolves:

1. That the special committee shall have the widest powers to ascertain and record facts.
2. That it shall receive testimony by whatever means it considers appropriate in each case from the mandatory power from representatives of the population of Palestine and from such other Governments non-governmental organisations and individuals as it may wish to consult.
3. That the committee shall bear in mind the principle that independence for the population of Palestine should be the ultimate purpose of any plan for the future of that country.
4. That it shall prepare a report to the General Assembly shall submit such proposals as it may consider appropriate for the solution of the problem of Palestine.
5. That its report shall be communicated to the Secretary-General if possible by 15th August 1947 but in any event not later than 1st September 1947 in order that

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it may be circulated to the member states of the United Nations in time for consideration by the second regular session of the General Assembly.

6. The special committee shall give most careful consideration to the interests of all inhabitants of Palestine and also to the religious interests in Palestine of Islam Jewry and Christendom. [Ends]

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem and Moscow as my telegrams Nos. 7 and 188 respectively.

[Repeated to Moscow]

[Copies sent to Cypher Section, Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem.]

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362

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E 3929

8

PALESTINE

12 MAY

Registry Number } E 3929/46/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No. New York.

Dated 1365

Received in Registry } 10, May 1947
12

Political and UN.
Ref. P'stel tel 934. State Daily summary
of proceedings of special session have been
telegraphed to F.O. and he'd concerned that they
were forwarded. Arrangement have now been
made to ensure repetition.

ADDRESSED JERUSALEM 11/8.

Last Paper.

3928

(Minutes.)

References.

In P.P. P'stel tel 934 7/5
of N.Y. tel 1365
copy to C.O. (Mr. Troffend Smith)
and re submit.

[Signature]
(3-6 CARLE)
14/5

A.S. Seint
May 19

[Signature]
19/5

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

1 of New York.
1391.

May-9.

8/ Troffend Smith
P.O.

May 14

8/ N.Y. 1365/6
Troffend Smith
16 May

(Action completed.)

[Signature]

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM NEW YORK TO HIGH COMMISSIONER JERUSALEM

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to United Nations)

No. 8

D. 4.53 p.m. 10th May 1947 **8929**

10th May 1947

R.12.05 a.m. 11th May 1947

Repeated to Foreign Office No. 1365 (Foreign Office please pass to Highcom Palestine)

Washington

c c c c c

GIANT
TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL

Your telegram to Secretary of State No. 934 repeated to Washington.

Daily summaries of proceedings at special session have been telegraphed to Foreign Office and I had assumed that these would be forwarded to you. Arrangements have now been made to ensure repetition to you of such telegrams.

2. Statement referred to in your paragraph 2 was made by me on 8th May in response to direct question by United States representative who asked "Does the delegation of the Mandatory recommend that the Arab Higher Committee is representative of the views of the Arabs in Palestine?". I replied "Yes, I can unhesitatingly answer the question just put to me by the United States representative in the affirmative." I should explain that unwise insistence of representatives of Arab States on discussion of substance of Palestine question during debate on Assembly agenda led to general feeling among other delegations that in fairness Jewish side of the case should also be heard. We ourselves had of course wished to confine special session to purely procedural business relating to appointment of Fact-Finding Committee, but in the circumstances we could not resist proposal that the Agency should be granted a hearing by the Political Committee though we supported the view (which won general acceptance) that in that event, since Agency spoke for Jewish population of Palestine, representatives of Arab population should also be heard. Only available representatives of latter appear to be Arab Higher Executive. / Position....

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Reference
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Position of His Majesty's Government would certainly have been subject to damaging misconstruction and our chance of obtaining approval for a Fact-Finding Committee with satisfactory composition and terms of reference (by no means assured) would have been prejudiced had we appeared to be attempting to obstruct the hearing of evidence from the Executive (whose delegation incidentally had already arrived). I am sorry that I did not add some qualification to my reply on this point and I regret if it caused you embarrassment; but the information in your telegram seems to bear out my statement so far as it went.

3. As I have explained the hearing of general statements from the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Executive has been unavoidable but we have succeeded in confining the privilege to these two bodies (rejecting for example an application from Agudas Israel) and fortunately both statements were couched in terms of such relative moderation that no acrimonious general debate as had appeared possible has in fact so far resulted from them and I hope that we shall now make more rapid progress with the business for which the Assembly was summoned.

4. We have assumed that any organisation of sufficient importance will have the fullest opportunity of presenting their case to the Fact-Finding Committee. I see no reason why you should not let this expectation be known if you receive enquiries on the point.

5. There seems to be general agreement that the Committee should visit Palestine and this too will probably be specifically mentioned in their terms of reference. Suggestion in your paragraph 4 can be conveyed to Committee when appointed and will meanwhile be mentioned to United Nations Secretariat; but Committee will of course be masters of their own procedure.

[Ends]

[Copies sent to Colonial Office Telegraph Section for repetition]

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INWARD TELEGRAM

16 11

AMENDED COPY (Amendment underlined)
Cypher (O.T.P.)

3729/46 51

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 7th May, 1947.
R. 8th " " 07.00 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 934 Top Secret and Personal.

Addressed S. of S.
Repeated Washington No. 103.

Following for Sir Alexander Cadogan at U.N.O.
Begins.

I have been somewhat concerned as to the lack of any official information as to present proceedings at U.N.O. As you know, the sole English newspaper in Palestine is Jewish and all news of this type is presented in a heavily biased fashion. I am, therefore, not in a position either to discuss the proceedings intelligently with local representatives of the communities or to answer their queries, nor counter inaccurate or prejudiced accounts by restoring the balance through Government publicity services.

2. For instance, publicity was given in the Palestine Post to an alleged statement by the British representative that he could unhesitatingly answer in the affirmative questions as to whether H.M.G. considers the Arab Higher Executive representative of the Arab population of Palestine as you know, the position of this body is not entirely clear cut. With the disappearance of the Mufti from Palestine before the war, the old Arab Higher Committee was dissolved. After Jamal Husseini was allowed back from the Seychelles, it reappeared as a self-appointed body resurrected by him and, although some effort was made to broaden its basis, it remains substantially the organ of the Palestine Arab party only, and until the Mufti came back was not thought to represent/

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represent as much as 50% of the Arab population, it was recognised by the Government entirely *(sans de mixis)*, there being no other body of Arabs with *(except group)* representation. With the return of the *Hafta*, the Arab Higher Executive has probably the support of the masses, but entirely *(gross omitted)* personality and prestige of the *Hafta* himself and certainly for no other reason. Arab Higher Executive concerns itself almost solely with high politics and only with the welfare of the Arabs in Palestine when it feels it may gain political capital from doing so. I fully appreciate what we have *(except group)* to recognize the Arab Higher Executive at the present, but their irresponsible and inflammatory actions have often recently caused a doubt in my mind as to whether we should go on doing so. I would suggest, therefore, that, although we acknowledge recognition for the moment, it might be wiser to be too categorical on the point.

3. It has also appeared in the press here that all Jewish bodies have agreed that they should be represented before U.N.O. by the Jewish Agency. While, as is well known, the latter body, in contradiction to the Arab Higher Executive, clearly has its roots in *Yishuv*, yet I feel I should remind you that their views as to a solution of the Palestine problem are in fact diametrically opposed to those of bodies *(group omitted)* as *Hashomer Hatzair*, *Aliyah Hadash* and the Revisionists.

A similar agreement was alleged to have been made before the arrival here of the Anglo-American Commission and, although none of these latter bodies did in fact appear before the Commission, there was more than a suspicion that it was through intimidation and certainly not through a lack of desire to do so.

4. This brings me to the question of the procedure for the proposed Fact Finding Committee when in Palestine. If, as in the case of the Anglo-American Committee, the Arab Higher Executive and the Jewish Agency are to put the official Arab and Jewish cases, evidence given by them is fully recorded and is available here in addition to all other evidence given before that Committee, less that given by Government officials in camera. I would suggest that much time would be saved and much more valuable information would be gained if the Committee were to accept this evidence as it stands and only hear official bodies in so far as they wish to amend it or the Committee themselves wished to interrogate them on it. There would, consequently, be much more time for the Committee to move
short/

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INWARD TELEGRAM

13

about the country and question the people themselves. I am convinced that in this way they would get a much truer picture of the requirements of any solution of the Palestine problem, as they would have the opportunity of meeting that quite considerable section of the community whose views on the political solution are by no means in accordance with those advanced by the extreme politicians who will represent the case on behalf of the Arab Higher Executive and the Jewish Agency.

5. I assume that the recorded evidence given before the Anglo-American Committee is available to British Delegation at U.N.O. but, if not and if it is required, it can be sent from here.

6. Referring again to the first paragraph of this telegram, I would be most grateful if summarized notes of proceedings at U.N.O., where they affect the two communities here, might be telegraphed to me as often as convenient. From my point of view a daily telegram would be most acceptable.
Ends.

(Copies sent to Foreign Office for transmission to U.N.O.).

Distributed to:-

MS. 25
Secretary of State
Sir T. Lloyd
Mr. I. Thomas
Mr. Martin
Sir D. Harris
Mr. Trafford Smith
Mr. Mathison
Mr. Higham
Mr. Eastwood
Mr. Bennett
Mr. Higg
Miss Boyd

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~~Mr~~ ^F ~~Garnet~~ ^{Garnet}

Could you
please arrange for
despatch of the
attached draft
to Martin;

COA Martin

9/5.

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61777

Registry
No. *E*

~~Top Secret~~
~~Secret~~
Confidential
~~Restricted~~
~~Open~~

Draft.

*Sir A. Cadogan
New York*

Telegram.

No. *1391*

(Date) *11/11/47*

Repeat to :-

~~En Clair~~
~~Coda~~
Cypher.

Distribution :-

Not Dept^{al}

Copies to :-

*Colonial Office:
to ~~Stafford~~
Smith*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 WL 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

OUT FILE

15

F. O.,

11/11 1947.

Despatched *2 25* M.

Confidential

Following for Martin from

Stafford Smith Colonial Office.

Begins.

*You will no doubt have
seen Sir Alan Cunningham's
telegram to Sir Alexander
Cadogan (addressed Secretary
of State No 934 repeated
Washington No 108) asking
for reports on proceedings
of special assembly and
commenting on other matters.*

*~~You should know that~~
Prior to receipt of this
telegram we had already
sent to Jerusalem copies of
the following telegrams from
New York to Foreign Office:
Nos 1281, 1290, 1296, 1306,*

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Reference

FO 371 / 61777

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¹⁶
1316 0 We have also arranged
for further telegraphic
situation reports from Sir
Alexander Cadogan to be
repeated to Jerusalem 0

I assume you are getting
all the material you want from
here to keep you in the
current Palestine picture. I shall
be sending by bag next week
the ~~notes~~ ^{papers} on Illegal Immigration
and Boycott you asked for with
a few notes on current
developments. ~~Ends.~~ Ends.

RQ
V 9/5

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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OUT FILE

17

E.
Cypher/OTP
Confidential.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the
United Nations)

No. 1391
May 9th, 1947.

D: 3.25.p.m. May 10th, 1947.

-----oOo-----

Confidential.

Following for Martin from Trafford Smith Colonial
Office.

[Begins].

You will no doubt have seen Sir Alan Cunningham's telegram to Sir Alexander Cadogan (addressed Secretary of State No. 934 repeated Washington No. 108) asking for reports on proceedings of special assembly and commenting on other matters. Prior to receipt of this telegram we had already sent to Jerusalem copies of the following telegrams from New York to Foreign Office: Nos. 1281, 1290, 1296, 1306, 1316. We have also arranged for further telegraphic situation reports from Sir Alexander Cadogan to be repeated to Jerusalem.

I assume you are getting all the material you want from here to keep you in the current Palestine picture. I shall be sending by bag next week the papers on Illegal Immigration and Boycott you asked for with a few notes on current developments.

[Ends].

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Reference
FO 371 / **61777**

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363

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E 3931 18

PALESTINE

12 MAY

Registry Number } E 3931/46/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Sir H. Bland

Dated 10 May

Received in Registry } 263

10 May 1946

Palatins and 11 N

State Dept of Foreign Affairs have expressed anxiety of efforts to induce Dutch delegate to convene a N. Committee of Enquiry. They point out that Indonesian interest in the problem would make the embarrasing and there are apparently other complications or will be associated with internal politics.

Last Paper.

3929

(Minutes.)

12/5 (SEE CABLE)

References.

S.E. Asia Dept for obs. whether it necessary to follow this up by a tel. to New York?
 U.N. Dept
 now out of date 12.16.5

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

RD

12/5

If the Dutch themselves say that it would not be in our interest if they served on this committee, I am sure it will be better not to press them.
 Reay. 12/5

(Action completed.)

12/5

(Index)

12/5

Next Paper.

E 3953

32003 F.O.P.

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E 3831
12 May

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION
DISTRIBUTION

FROM THE HAGUE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir N. Bland
No: 263

D. 2.42.p.m. 10th May 1947

10th May 1947

R. 9.0.p.m. 10th May 1947

Repeated to U.K. Delegation New York

X:X:X:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs have expressed anxiety at the efforts to induce Dutch delegate to serve on United Nations Committee of Enquiry for Palestine. They point out that Indonesian interest in the Moslems would make this embarrassing and there are apparently other complications as well connected with internal politics.

2. The Dutch will reluctantly agree to serve if pressed but doubt whether it is in our interest to do this.

Please repeat to New York as my telegram

No: 4.

[Repeated to U.K. Delegation New York.]

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1947

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PALESTINE

E 3953

13 MAY

20

Registry Number } E3953/46/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. U.K. Del.

Dated New York.

Received in Registry } 1367.

12 May 1947

13

Palatial, Special Committee.
R. for New York (E 1359 (E 3927/46/21))
Transmit text of speech by W. Cattan
who spoke on behalf of Arab Higher
Committee on May 9.

Last Paper.

3931

(Minutes.)

U.N. Del. 6/10

Paula
U.S. E-CAB 13/5

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

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14/5

(Action completed.)

Pennington

(Index.)

W. Cattan

Next Paper.

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EE 3953 21

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CYPHER/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1,367.

D: 11.10 a.m. 12th May, 1947.

12th May, 1947.

R: 6.15 p.m. 12th May, 1947.

Repeated to: Jerusalem,
Moscow.

OOO OOO OOO

IMPORTANT

GIANT

My telegram No. 1,359.

Palestine.

Mr. Cattam spoke on behalf of the Arab higher committee on the 9th May. He gave an account of British pledges to the Arabs during and after the last war suggesting that the investigating committee should examine these. The Arab case however did not rest on these pledges but on the natural and inalienable right of the people of Palestine to independence. The principle of self-determination which had been accepted by the allied powers in the first world war was embodied in Article 22 of the covenant of the League of Nations. The investigating committee should consider the compatibility of the mandate with this article. The Palestine mandate like other "A" mandates was intended to be a transitional régime. The other mandates over Arab countries had already been terminated. Cattam argued that the powers of the mandatory in Palestine could not out-live the dissolution of the League of Nations. But even if the mandate could be said to be still in existence the committee should consider the conflict between its provisions for a Jewish national home and the obligations undertaken by His Majesty's Government on entering the United Nations.

2. Cattam concluded his statement by suggesting that the terms of reference should make it clear that the Palestine problem was not an Arab-Jewish problem. The Arab opposition to immigration did not result from the fact that the immigrants were Jews; it would be equally strong if they belonged to any other race or religion. It should also be made clear that the problem was not

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Reference FO 371 / 61777

connected with the refugee problem which should be the concern of the whole civilised world.

3. Cattan's statement like Silver's on the previous day was carefully argued and moderately expressed. Both have made a favourable impression on the first committee and neither had contained intemperate abuse of the mandatory power.

4. On the morning of the 10th May the first committee had an inconclusive discussion of the draft contained in my telegram No. 1,360. Various amendments were proposed and all the texts were referred to a sub-committee which met in the afternoon. In the sub-committee we succeeded in defeating for the time being at least a Polish proposal to instruct the investigating committee to visit displaced persons camps in Europe and the camps in Cyprus. We also disposed of an Australian proposal that the investigating committee should make interim recommendations to His Majesty's Government covering the period before the Assembly's recommendations on the future Government of Palestine could be put into effect. The sub-committee did not reach agreement on a proposal for dropping the word "ultimate" from paragraph 3 of the draft in my telegram under reference nor on a Soviet proposal for adding to paragraph 4 the words "including a proposal on the question of establishing without delay the independent democratic state of Palestine". We opposed both proposals.

Foreign Office please pass Important to High Commissioner Jerusalem as my telegram No. 9 and to Moscow as my telegram No. 189.

[Repeated to Moscow and copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem.]

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Reference
FO 371
61777

365

E

E 3959

28

PALESTINE

13 MAY

Registry Number

E 3959/46/31

FROM

Embassy

No.

Moscow

Dated

329

Received in Registry

403/70/47
6 May 1947
13

Politics, Russian Press.
Refer Moscow (L 1034 (E 3949/46/31))
document extract from 'Pravda' containing
summary by A. Strepelov, entitled,
'on the Question of Palestine'.

Last Paper.

3953

References.

This is the full text ^(Minutes) of article referred to in E 3543.
Northern Dept. ~~7/11/47~~
v.v. Dept. ~~7/11/47~~
[Signature]
(C-E-CABLE)
13/5

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

[Signature]
20/6/48

(Index)

[Signature]
20/6/48

Next Paper.

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No. 329

(403/70/47)

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13 MAY

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Moscow
presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British EMBASSY

MOSCOW

6th May 1947.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Moscow telegram No. 1034 to F.O. of 28th April, 1947.
Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
"Komsomolskaya Pravda" 6th May, 1947.	"On the Question of Palestine" Survey, by A. Strepetov.

Copy sent under P/L to :

Washington No. 62:
Jerusalem U/n
Cairo No. 6.

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25

6th May, 1947

PART I

KOM. PRAVDA

ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE By A. Strepctov

Survey

The geographic position of Palestine is one of the factors which can explain the reason for the special interest of Britain and the USA in it. For the British Empire Palestine plays the rôle of place d'armes in the defence of the Suez Canal and India. One of the most important ports of Palestine, Haifa, is at the same time a great British naval base in the Near East. Moreover, Palestine is very important as an intermediate point in the export of oil from Near Eastern countries. It is sufficient to note that before the war the export of around half of all the oil extracted in Iraq passed through the port of Haifa alone. As a result of the increasing importance of Near Eastern oil at the present time negotiations are going on for running new oil pipe-lines through the territory of the country.

Before the first world war Palestine was a part of the Turkish Empire. One of the problems which the Allies had to solve was the question of their attitude to the so-called Zionist movement, that is, a movement for the formation of an independent Jewish state in Palestine. The attitude of the Allies to the Zionist movement was expressed in the famous declaration by the British political leader, Balfour, published in November 1917. The declaration stated that it was desirable "...to establish in Palestine a national homeland for the Jewish people" without infringing the rights of other peoples. This declaration was subsequently approved by the Governments of Britain, the USA, France and Italy and included in the peace treaty with Turkey (the Treaty of Sevres). The publication and adoption of this declaration caused dissatisfaction with the Arab population of the countries of the East, who dreamed of the establishment of an independent Arab state in Palestine. Starting with this moment, antagonism between the Arab and Jewish population of Palestine, kindled from the outside, has increased uninterruptedly, at times assuming very acute forms.

In 1920 a mandate for the administration of Palestine was given to Great Britain by a decision of the Supreme Council of the Allies subsequently confirmed in 1922 by the League of Nations. Events which followed showed that the British "solution" of the question had transformed the country into an arena of bloody clashes between Arabs and Zionists. Manoeuvring between these two camps, the British would sometimes encourage and co-operate in every way with the mass immigration of Jews into Palestine, and at other times would declare the need to restrict or curtail this immigration.

Progressive circles in both the Arab and Jewish population of Palestine understood very well that such a division of the country into two camps was to the advantage only of foreign imperialistic circles, since it diverts the population of Palestine from the struggle for the complete independence of the country. But the democratic forces were unable to create a united front.

The British Government, seeking to create the impression that it wishes to effect a just solution of the Palestine problem, convokes a large number of conferences, sessions, commissions, etc.

The Syrian newspaper "Al-Yakzat" wrote in February 1947 regarding this "activity" of the British: "Almost every day Britain comes forward with a new project for a solution of the Palestine question. Sometimes she expresses her agreement with the Arab proposals, at others proposes a plan to divide Palestine, at other times recommends a plan for federation. All these plans and proposals are designed to confuse the Arabs, to cause troubles and disorders among them, which she considers advantageous for the accomplishment of these purposes".

In the period between 1917 and 1936, the British Government supported the Zionist movement but at the same time had to reckon with the intensification of the national-liberation and anti-Zionist movement among the Arabs. In 1925 an independent Arab state - Transjordania - was formed. Between 1936 and 1938 the British prepared plans for dividing Palestine into two states: Jewish and Arab.

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PART I

-19-

SECTION A

6th May, 1947

SOME PAPERS

BRITISH ADMIRALTY COMMUNIQUE

LONDON 5th May TASS. According to the B.D.C., a communique of the British Admiralty has been published which states that 5,000,000 pounds are to be spent in Britain on research work in the field of navigation. It is believed that experts will engage on the study of the possibility of using atomic energy as motive power which will considerably ease the problem of supplying ships with fuel.

(10 lines). (I.R.) SOME PAPERS. 6.5.47.

RED STAR

ON NEGOTIATIONS IN LONDON FOR DESPATCH OF ANGLONORWEGIAN-SWEDISH ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

LONDON 5th May TASS. Reuter reports that on May 2nd, the former head of the Norwegian Air Force, Major-General Larsen, flew to Stockholm. In London he conducted negotiations regarding the despatch of a joint Anglo-Norwegian-Swedish expedition to the Antarctic, with members of the British Geographical Society and the Polar Research Institute in Cambridge. The despatch of the expedition is planned for the end of autumn, 1948, and will run to 400,000 dollars.

(12 lines). RED STAR. 6.5.47.

SOME PAPERS

FRESH GREEK PROVOCATIVE ACTS ON ALBANIAN FRONTIER

TIRANA 5th May TASS. The paper "Bashkimi" reports that at 11.0 a.m. on April 28th eight Greek gendarmes fired rifles and automatic weapons on to Albanian territory between frontier posts 17 and 18. The Albanian frontier guards did not return the fire which lasted one hour.

On April 29th in the Argyrokastron area, a group of armed Greeks penetrated on to Albanian territory. Observing that they had been discovered by the Albanian frontier guards, the provocateurs returned to Greek territory.

(16 lines). (I.R.) SOME PAPERS. 6.5.47.

SOME PAPERS

GREEK SOLDIERS CROSS INTO ALBANIAN TERRITORY

TIRANA 5th May TASS. The Albanian authorities have published a communique stating that in the last four months, there have been six instances of Albanian territory being crossed by Greek soldiers deserting from the Greek Army, and surrendering to Albanian frontier guards. The communique indicates that the desertions were due to the terrorism and persecutions taking place in the Greek Army. The soldiers are under the surveillance of the Albanian authorities.

(11 lines). (I.R. & IZV.) SOME PAPERS. 6.5.47.

SOME PAPERS

MAY DAY STRIKE IN GREECE

ATHENS 5th May TASS. All meetings and assemblies were banned in Athens on May 1st. Despite threats and arrests, however, the workers celebrated their holiday by a one-day strike or by stopping work for two hours. The strikers included workers in the metal, leather and building industries, garment workers, bakers, employees of the telephone company, etc. Because of the strike, not a single newspaper appeared in Athens and for two hours tram-car traffic was halted.

(11 lines). (I.R.) SOME PAPERS. 6.5.47.

KOM. PRAVDA

TELEGRAM FROM GREEK YOUTH IN YUGOSLAVIA TO UNO SECRETARIAT

BELGRADE 4th May TASS. The press reports that members of a Greek EYON youth group, taking part in the construction of the Szamac-Sarajevo railway, have sent a telegram protesting against the terrorism in Greece to the UNO Secretariat, the Foreign Ministers of the great powers, the heads of all Governments, the World Federations of Trade Unions, Women and Democratic Youth, the World Students' Federation and the Council of Balkan Youth. The telegram demands the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Greece, the formation of an all-party government, the establishment of democratic liberties and a general political amnesty.

(24 lines). KOM. PRAVDA. 6.5.47.

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Section A

PART I

-21-

6th May, 1947

KOM. PRAVDA (cont'd.)

In 1939 the "White Paper" of the British Government was published announcing the impossibility of establishing a Jewish state in Palestine, but proposing a plan to establish an independent state in 10 years time. The foreign press almost unanimously recognised that this plan contradicted previous promises of the British and the terms of their mandate, on the basis of which they had attempted to solve the Palestine problem. In spite of the fact that this plan was categorically rejected by both Arabs and Jews it remains the fundamental document determining British policy in Palestine.

In October 1946 President Truman despatched a special note to Attlee urging the immediate immigration of Jews into Palestine, proposing to permit 100,000 Jewish immigrants first of all. This message expressed Truman's support for the idea of establishing a Jewish state from part of Palestine. This proposal caused a storm of indignation in the Arab countries. Many prominent Arab political leaders and newspapers called for an economic boycott of the USA. Later on the League of Arab States despatched a note of protest against American intervention in Palestinian affairs.

The last stage in the British efforts to "solve" the Palestine question was the London conference which ended in failure in February 1947. It was attended by representatives of 7 Arab countries (Egypt, Syria, the Lebanon, Transjordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Yemen) who acted as a united front and also by representatives of Palestine's Arab population. The Jewish delegates boycotted the conference in protest against refusal to satisfy their demand for the establishment of a Jewish state, but the British Government conducted unofficial negotiations with representatives of the Jews who were in London.

The failure of the Conference robbed the British Government of an opportunity of further delaying a solution of the Palestine question. The foreign press observed that the British Government, seeking to retain Palestine within the Empire, had exhausted all means of delaying the transfer of this problem to the UN. Thus, before the first part of the first session of the General Assembly in January 1946 the British Government announced that it was waiting for the Anglo-American Commission to finish work. In the second part of the first session of the General Assembly (November 1946) it was the London Conference which served as such a cloak.

The Secretary-General of the Supreme Arab Committee of Palestine, Dr. Hussein-el-Hallidi, said on the 27th of January this year regarding the London Conference: "In my opinion, the Conference is one of the means of delay and winning time necessary for the British Government".

Only recently the British Government adopted a decision to refer the problem to the UN and Bevin admitted in the House of Commons that "...in practice the mandate is unfeasible".

The policy of postponing a decision and manoeuvring between the two camps which arose precisely as a result of this policy has resulted in an extreme situation in Palestine. Chauvinistic terrorist organisations of Zionists are attacking British soldiers and officers, organising explosions, etc. The foreign press is full of reports of the establishment of an underground Jewish army financed from abroad and also the formation of an illegal Arab army financed and inspired by reactionary chauvinistic circles of foreign Arabs.

The facts show that the Arab and Jewish population seek joint action in the struggle for independence of the country. The Foreign Minister of Iraq recently said that under certain conditions "...enough room will be found for Arabs and Jews to live together". The American Jewish progressive newspaper "Morgen Freiheit" wrote last June that "...the Arab population which the British agents seek by all means to drag into this struggle against Jews is not allowing itself to be provoked and remains calm".

In Bevin's words the British Government cannot "make any new proposals to the UN".

(1½ cols.) (Full summary)

KOM. PRAVDA 6.5.47

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PART I

6th May, 1947

ALL PAPERS

THE SITUATION IN FRANCE

PARIS, 5th May, TASS. The decision taken yesterday evening by the President of the Council of Ministers, Ramadier, on the replacement of Communist Ministers on the grounds that the Communists, by casting a negative vote in the vote of confidence in the Government, thereby allegedly "violated ministerial solidarity", is not yet final. A final decision on the governmental question will be taken after the meeting of the National Council of the Socialist Party, which is to take place on the 6th May.

There are two tendencies in the Socialist Party; some are demanding the collective resignation of the Ramadier Government, while others are in favour of a solution by means of presidential decree, which is what Ramadier has done. It should be remembered that the guiding committee of the Socialist Party yesterday adopted, though by a small majority, a decision on the resignation of the whole Cabinet, but, following a meeting of the Parliamentary Socialist group, agreed to sanction the measure affected by Ramadier.

Other political groups will have to decide on their attitude towards the governmental question in the next few days. The "Union of Left Republicans" for example, will take a final decision on the 7th May.

This evening's edition of "Ce Soir" emphasises that Ramadier has fulfilled the wishes of MRP in taking a decision.
(32 lines)

ALL PAPERS 6.5.47

ALL PAPERS

COMMUNIQUE BY BUREAU OF CONFEDERATION GENERALE DU TRAVAIL

PARIS, 5th May, TASS. The following communique was published after the meeting of the Bureau of the Confederation Generale du Travail this morning:

"The increase of production and the raising of the productivity of labour are important conditions for the country's revival. But the working class could not continue its productive efforts for the sole advantage of industrialists and speculators. For this reason the Bureau of the Confederation Generale du Travail approves and encourages all trade union demands, which have the object of securing an immediate rise in wages by means of the grant of premiums for extra work. Bearing in mind the previous obligations assumed by agreement with the Government regarding a review in May of the living conditions of employees in connection with the results obtained after experiments in the reduction of prices, the Bureau of the Confederation Generale du Travail has decided to request a meeting with the President of the Council of Ministers to discuss the situation".

(24 lines)

ALL PAPERS 6.5.47

SOME PAPERS

FORTHCOMING CONGRESS OF FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

PARIS, 5th May, TASS. The Central Committee of the French Communist Party has decided to call the 11th congress of the Communist Party in Strasburg on the 25th to 28th June. The agenda will include the report of the Central Committee, work among women and the Party's municipal activity.

Meetings of the National Committee and of the Youth Committee will take place on the 24th June in the Congress meeting hall.
(12 lines) (Pr.)

SOME PAPERS 6.5.47

SOME PAPERS

FRENCH PAPER ON DEAT'S PRESENCE IN CYPRUS

PARIS, 5th May, TASS. In connection with reports which have appeared that Marcel Deat is in Cyprus, the paper "Humanite" writes that this traitor was at one time in Northern Italy, in an area controlled by the British, and now even had the opportunity of changing his place of residence. "The French people", the paper states, "expect that its diplomats will immediately demand the arrest and handing over of the traitor by the British".

The paper "Franc-Tireur" writes that Deat officially requested a visa to stay in Cyprus through the mediation of a number of Frenchmen. As the British authorities consider that Deat is living in Cyprus illegally, they have referred his case to the police.
(22 lines) (Izv.)

SOME PAPERS 6.5.47

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PALESTINE

14 MAY

Registry Number

E3985/46/31

FROM

United

No.

Nations

Dated

A/295

Received in Registry

25 April 1947
14 May

Palestine and U.N.

French copy of United Nations Document A/295 of 25 April, a Summary of First Special Session of General Assembly.

Last Paper.

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(Minutes.)

9A. P.P. U/N. A 292 18/4 ✓

References.

B May 15

(Print.)

In P.P.	U/N.	A 296.	April 28 ✓
-	-	A 296/add 1	May 1 ✓
-	-	A 296/add 2	May 5 ✓
-	-	A/297	April 30 ✓
-	-	A/299	May 2 ✓
-	-	A/300	May 5 ✓
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-	-	A/302	May 5 ✓
-	-	A/303	May 5 ✓
-	-	A/304	May 5 ✓
-	-	A/305	May 5 ✓
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GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE

A/292
18 April 1947
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-
FRENCH

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

TEXT OF MANDATE

ADVANCE COPY

(Note by the Secretary-General)

The Secretary-General submits herewith to the General Assembly, for its information, the text of the Mandate for Palestine, confirmed by the Council of the League of Nations on 24 July 1922, and the Memorandum by the British Government relating to its application to Transjordan, approved by that Council on 16 September 1922 (League of Nations document No. C.P.M.466 - C.529.M.314.1922.VI.-C.667.M.396.1922.VI.).

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/MANDATE

32.

MANDATE FOR PALESTINE

The Council of the League of Nations:

Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have agreed, for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, to entrust to a Mandatory selected by the said Powers the administration of the territory of Palestine, which formerly belonged to the Turkish Empire, within such boundaries as may be fixed by them; and

Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have also agreed that the Mandatory should be responsible for putting into effect the declaration originally made on November 2nd, 1917, by the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and adopted by the said Powers, in favour of the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing should be done which might prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country; and

Whereas recognition has thereby been given to the historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine and to the grounds for reconstituting their national home in that country; and

Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have selected His Britannic Majesty as the Mandatory for Palestine; and

Whereas the mandate in respect of Palestine has been formulated in the following terms and submitted to the Council of the League for approval; and

Whereas His Britannic Majesty has accepted the mandate in respect of Palestine and undertaken to exercise it on behalf of the League of Nations in conformity with the following provisions; and

/Whereas by

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Article 12

The Mandatory shall be entrusted with the control of the foreign relations of Palestine and the right to issue exequaturs to consuls appointed by foreign Powers. He shall also be entitled to afford diplomatic and consular protection to citizens of Palestine when outside its territorial limits.

Article 13

All responsibility in connection with the Holy Places and religious buildings or sites in Palestine, including that of preserving existing rights and of securing free access to the Holy Places, religious buildings and sites and the free exercise of worship, while ensuring the requirements of public order and decorum, is assumed by the Mandatory, who shall be responsible solely to the League of Nations in all matters connected herewith, provided that nothing in this article shall prevent the Mandatory from entering into such arrangements as he may deem reasonable with the Administration for the purpose of carrying the provisions of this article into effect; and provided also that nothing in this mandate shall be construed as conferring upon the Mandatory authority to interfere with the fabric or the management of purely Moslem sacred shrines, the immunities of which are guaranteed.

Article 14

A special Commission shall be appointed by the Mandatory to study, define and determine the rights and claims in connection with the Holy Places and the rights and claims relating to the different religious communities in Palestine. The method of nomination, the composition and the functions of this Commission shall be submitted to the Council of the League for its approval, and the Commission shall not be appointed or enter upon its functions without the approval of the Council.

Article 15

The Mandatory shall see that complete freedom of conscience and the

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Article 18

The Mandatory shall see that there is no discrimination in Palestine against the nationals of any State Member of the League of Nations (including companies incorporated under its laws) as compared with those of the Mandatory or of any foreign State in matters concerning taxation, commerce or navigation, the exercise of industries or professions, or in the treatment of merchant vessels or civil aircraft. Similarly, there shall be no discrimination in Palestine against goods originating in or destined for any of the said States, and there shall be freedom of transit under equitable conditions across the mandated area.

Subject as aforesaid and to the other provisions of this mandate, the Administration of Palestine may, on the advice of the Mandatory, impose such taxes and Customs duties as it may consider necessary, and take such steps as it may think best to promote the development of the natural resources of the country and to safeguard the interests of the population. It may also, on the advice of the Mandatory, conclude a special Customs agreement with any State the territory of which in 1914 was wholly included in Asiatic Turkey or Arabia.

Article 19

The Mandatory shall adhere on behalf of the Administration of Palestine to any general international conventions already existing, or which may be concluded hereafter with the approval of the League of Nations, respecting the slave traffic, the traffic in arms and ammunition, or the traffic in drugs, or relating to commercial equality, freedom of transit and navigation, aerial navigation and postal, telegraphic and wireless communication or literary, artistic or industrial property.

Article 20

The Mandatory shall co-operate on behalf of the Administration of Palestine, so far as religious, social and other conditions may permit, in the execution of any common policy adopted by the League of Nations for
/preventing

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(6)

Equitable terms shall be fixed for expropriation, temporary or permanent, of lands which might be of historical or archaeological interest.

(7)

Authorisation to excavate shall only be granted to persons who show sufficient guarantees of archaeological experience. The Administration of Palestine shall not, in granting these authorisations, act in such a way as to exclude scholars of any nation without good grounds.

(8)

The proceeds of excavations may be divided between the excavator and the competent Department in a proportion fixed by that Department. If division seems impossible for scientific reasons, the excavator shall receive a fair indemnity in lieu of a part of the find.

Article 22

English, Arabic and Hebrew shall be the official languages of Palestine. Any statement or inscription in Arabic on stamps or money in Palestine shall be repeated in Hebrew and any statement or inscription in Hebrew shall be repeated in Arabic.

Article 23

The Administration of Palestine shall recognise the holy days of the respective communities in Palestine as legal days of rest for the members of such communities.

Article 24

The Mandatory shall make to the Council of the League of Nations an annual report to the satisfaction of the Council as to the measures taken during the year to carry out the provisions of the mandate. Copies of all laws and regulations promulgated or issued during the year shall be communicated with the report.

Article 25

In the territories lying between the Jordan and the eastern boundary of
/Palestine

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Palestine as ultimately determined, the Mandatory shall be entitled, with the consent of the Council of the League of Nations, to postpone or withhold application of such provisions of this mandate as he may consider inapplicable to the existing local conditions, and to make such provisions for the administration of the territories as he may consider suitable to those conditions, provided that no action shall be taken which is inconsistent with the provisions of Articles 15, 16 and 18.

Article 26

The Mandatory agrees that, if any dispute whatever should arise between the Mandatory and another Member of the League of Nations relating to the interpretation or the application of the provisions of the mandate, such dispute, if it cannot be settled by negotiation, shall be submitted to the Permanent Court of International Justice provided for by Article 14 of the Covenant of the League of Nations.

Article 27

The consent of the Council of the League of Nations is required for any modification of the terms of this mandate.

Article 28

In the event of the termination of the mandate hereby conferred upon the Mandatory, the Council of the League of Nations shall make such arrangements as may be deemed necessary for safeguarding in perpetuity, under guarantee of the League, the rights secured by Articles 13 and 14, and shall use its influence for securing, under the guarantee of the League, that the Government of Palestine will fully honour the financial obligations legitimately incurred by the Administration of Palestine during the period of the mandate, including the rights of public servants to pensions or gratuities.

The present instrument shall be deposited in original in the archives of the League of Nations and certified copies shall be forwarded by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations to all Members of the League.

Done at London the twenty-fourth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two.

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ARTICLE 25 OF THE PALESTINE MANDATE
MEMORANDUM BY THE BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE

Approved by the Council on September 16th, 1922¹

Article 25 of the Mandate for Palestine provides as follows:

"In the territories lying between the Jordan and the eastern boundary of Palestine as ultimately determined, the Mandatory shall be entitled, with the consent of the Council of the League of Nations, to postpone or withhold application of such provisions of this Mandate as he may consider inapplicable to the existing local conditions, and to make such provision for the administration of the territories as he may consider suitable to those conditions, provided no action shall be taken which is inconsistent with the provisions of Articles 15, 16 and 18."

2. In pursuance of the provisions of this article, His Majesty's Government invite the Council to pass the following resolution:

"The following provisions of the Mandate for Palestine are not applicable to the territory known as Transjordan, which comprises all territory lying to the east of a line drawn from a point two miles west of the town of Akaba on the Gulf of that name up the centre of the Wady Araba, Dead Sea and River Jordan to its junction with the River Yarmuk: thence up the centre of that river to the Syrian frontier."

Preamble - Recitals 2 and 3.

Article 2.

The words "placing the country under such political administration and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish National Home, as laid down in the Preamble, and".

Article 4.

Article 6.

¹ See Minutes of the Twenty-first Session of the Council, Official Journal, November 1922, page 1188.

/Article 7.

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Article 7.

The sentence "there shall be included in this law provisions framed so as to facilitate the acquisition of Palestinian citizenship by Jews who take up their permanent residence in Palestine".

Article 11.

The second sentence of the first paragraph and the second paragraph.

Article 13.

Article 14.

Article 22.

Article 23.

In the application of the Mandate to Transjordan, the action which, in Palestine, is taken by the Administration of the latter country will be taken by the Administration of Transjordan under the general supervision of the Mandatory.

3. His Majesty's Government accept full responsibility as Mandatory for Transjordan, and undertake that such provision as may be made for the administration of that territory in accordance with Article 25 of the Mandate shall be in no way inconsistent with those provisions of the Mandate which are not by this resolution declared inapplicable.

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UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENT

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Mr. Trafford-Smith

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Mr. Pitblado (Treasury)

Mr. J. E. Wall (Min. of Food)

Mr. W. R. Richardson (Min. of Education)

Mr. W. W. Burkett (Min. of Civil Aviation)

Mrs. Walker (Min. of Transport)

Mr. J. S. Bennett (Colonial Office)

Mr. G. B. Shannon (Dominions Office)

Mr. J. P. Gibson (Burma Office)

Mr. J. J. W. Handford (Scottish Office)

Sir Sydney Harris (Home Office)

Mr. H. Townshend (G.P.O.)

Dr. G. North (Registrar-General)

Mr. B. R. Curson (India Office)

Mr. H. G. Gee (Min. of Labour)

Mr. J. S. Nicholson (Min. of Nat. Insurance)

Mr. J. Stafford (C. Stat. Office)

Major W. H. Coles (Home Office)

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United Nations

Nations Unies

UNRESTRICTED

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE

A/295
25 April 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

THE SUMMONING OF THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On 2 April 1947, the United Kingdom requested the Acting Secretary-General to summon a special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of constituting and instructing a special committee to prepare for the consideration of the question of Palestine at the second regular session of the General Assembly (document A/286). In accordance with Rule 4 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly, the Acting Secretary-General sent the following telegram to the other Members of the United Nations:

"HAVE HONOR NOTIFY YOU THAT ON 2 APRIL UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT REQUESTED SECRETARY GENERAL TO PLACE QUESTION OF PALESTINE ON AGENDA NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE FOUR PROVISIONAL RULES PROCEDURE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAVE HONOR INFORM YOU THAT UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT FURTHER REQUESTED SECRETARY GENERAL IN VIEW OF DESIRABILITY OF AN EARLY SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE TO SUMMON SPECIAL SESSION GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR PURPOSE OF CONSTITUTING AND INSTRUCTING A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PREPARE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF ABOVE QUESTION AT NEXT REGULAR SESSION. THEREFORE HAVE HONOR INQUIRE WHETHER YOUR GOVERNMENT CONCURS IN SUMMONING SPECIAL SESSION FOR THIS PURPOSE AND TO REQUEST YOU NOTIFY ME OF ITS DECISION. IF WITHIN THIRTY DAYS MAJORITY OF MEMBERS CONCUR SPECIAL SESSION WILL BE CONVOKED IN ACCORDANCE RULES THREE AND EIGHT AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA CIRCULATED IN ACCORDANCE RULE ELEVEN.

VICTOR HOO ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL"

Replies to the telegram of the Acting Secretary-General were received as follows:

/Member States

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<u>Member States</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	
1. Cuba	3 April	Concurring
2. France	4 April	"
3. United States of America	5 April	"
4. China	7 April	"
5. Haiti	"	"
6. Honduras	"	"
7. Greece	8 April	"
8. Liberia	"	"
9. New Zealand	"	"
10. Czechoslovakia	9 April	"
11. Brazil	"	"
12. Panama	"	"
13. Mexico	"	"
14. Paraguay	"	"
15. Sweden	"	"
16. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	"	"
17. Denmark	10 April	"
18. Dominican Republic	"	"
19. Ecuador	"	"
20. Luxembourg	"	"
21. Peru	"	"
22. Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republics	"	"
23. Australia	11 April	"
24. India	"	"
25. Norway	"	"
26. Union of South Africa	"	"
27. Canada	12 April	"
28. Philippine Republic (Majority of Members)	13 April	"
29. Turkey	"	"
30. El Salvador	14 April	"
31. Poland	"	"
32. Bolivia	15 April	"
33. Netherlands	"	"
34. Uruguay	"	"
35. Colombia	16 April	"
36. Ethiopia	"	Not concurring
37. Venezuela	"	Concurring
38. Guatemala	17 April	"
39. Chile	"	"

On 13 April 1947 a majority of Members having concurred in the request of the United Kingdom, in accordance with Rule 4 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure the Secretary-General summoned, in accordance with Rule 8, the First Special Session of the General Assembly to open at the General Assembly Hall, Flushing Meadow, New York, on 28 April, and informed the Members of the United Nations as follows:

"HAVE HONOR INFORM YOU THAT A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS HAVE TODAY CONCURRED IN THE REQUEST OF UNITED KINGDOM TO SUMMON A SPECIAL SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES THREE AND EIGHT OF PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF

/GENERAL

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY I HEREBY NOTIFY YOU THAT SPECIAL SESSION WILL OPEN ON MONDAY 28 APRIL 1947 AT ELEVEN AM IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY HALL FLUSHING MEADOW NEW YORK CITY.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF SPECIAL SESSION FOLLOWS:

1. OPENING OF SESSION BY CHAIRMAN OF BELGIAN DELEGATION
2. ELECTION AND REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
3. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT
4. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION
5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
6. CONSTITUTING AND INSTRUCTING SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PREPARE FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE AT SECOND REGULAR SESSION.

TRYGVE LIE
SECRETARY GENERAL"

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UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENT

The paper attached is an advance copy received by air from New York. It is circulated to the officials whose names are underlined below for advance information only. A copy has gone forward for entry in the Foreign Office. Full circulation will be given when further copies are received by sea.

United Nations Department

Classification Branch

Minister of State

Sir E. Hall-Patch

Mr. Jebb

Mr. Troutbeck

Mr. Beckett

Mr. Gallop

Mr. R. B. Stevens

Mr. C. J. Edmonds

Miss Powell

Mr. Mason

Mr. Gore-Booth

Mr. Hebblethwaite

Mr. Goodwin

Mr. Heathcote-Smith

Mr. Tomkins

Colson Dept

Equ. Man Dept

Mr. Trafford

Mr. Fleming (Cabinet Offices)

Mr. Pimlott (Lord President's Office)

Mr. G. M. Wilson (Cabinet Offices)

Sir A. Rucker (Min. of Health)

Mr. Shackle (Board of Trade)

Mr. Pitblado (Treasury)

Mr. J. E. Wall (Min. of Food)

Mr. W. R. Richardson (Min. of Education)

Mr. W. W. Burkett (Min. of Civil Aviation)

Mrs. Walker (Min. of Transport)

Mr. J. S. Bennett (Colonial Office)

Mr. G. B. Shannon (Dominions Office)

Mr. J. P. Gibson (Burma Office)

Mr. J. J. W. Handford (Scottish Office)

Sir Sydney Harris (Home Office)

Mr. H. Townshend (G.P.O.)

Dr. G. North (Registrar-General)

Mr. B. R. Curson (India Office)

Mr. H. G. Gee (Min. of Labour)

Mr. J. S. Nicholson (Min. of Nat. Insurance)

Mr. J. Stafford (C. Stat. Office)

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United Nations

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

Nations Unies

ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE

UNRESTRICTED

A/296
28 April 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

A9

QUESTION OF PALESTINE
WORKING DOCUMENTATION PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT
VOLUME I
REFERENCE LIBRARY ON PALESTINE

ADVANCE COPY

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The Reference Library on Palestine assembled by the Secretariat consists of official documents on this subject. Its purpose is to assist members of Delegations and the Secretariat in their study of the Palestine question.

Although every effort has been made to bring together all official documents, the Reference Library on Palestine can not be regarded at this stage as complete. Certain documents, particularly documents from Arab sources, are not available in the United States and could not be obtained at short notice. Additions to the Library are being made every day, and it is proposed to issue supplements to this document during the course of the present session.

The material available in the Reference Library on Palestine is restricted to documents issued by (a) international organizations; (b) individual Governments; (c) the Arab Higher Committee and its predecessors and the Jewish Agency for Palestine and its predecessors.

The Reference Library on Palestine is located in the Writing Room, Delegates' Lounge at Flushing. It is open to members of Delegations and the Secretariat, from 10:30 a.m. to the close of meetings, and at other times by request. Documents may be consulted in the Library but may not under any circumstances be removed from it.

Included herein are (I) a list of documents contained in the Library, and (II) a subject index to the documents.

/I. LIST OF

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I. LIST OF DOCUMENTS IN THE REFERENCE LIBRARY
ON PALESTINE

This list is a catalogue arranged in chronological order according to the following sources:

- (a) International Organizations and Conferences
 - League of Nations
 - League of Arab States
 - United Nations.
- (b) United Kingdom Government.
- (c) Other Governments.
- (d) Arab Higher Committee and its predecessors.
- (e) Jewish Agency for Palestine and its predecessors.

II. SUBJECT INDEX TO DOCUMENTS IN THE REFERENCE
LIBRARY ON PALESTINE

The index covers the majority of the documents in the Reference Library on Palestine. Owing to lack of time and to the fact that additional documents are being received almost daily, it has not been possible to prepare an exhaustive subject index. A list of the documents not covered by the index is available in the Library and the Secretariat will endeavour to give every assistance whenever it may be necessary to use such documents as are not indexed.

It is hoped to issue a more comprehensive subject index during the course of the General Assembly.

In a few cases it has not been possible to obtain official copies of documents. Reference has accordingly been made to reproductions or extracts contained in other publications.

/I. LIST OF DOCUMENTS

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I. LIST OF DOCUMENTS IN THE REFERENCE LIBRARY ON PALESTINE

(a) International Organizations and Conferences

(1) League of Nations

Covenant of the League of Nations including Amendments in force,
16 December 1935. Geneva, Secretariat of the League of Nations.

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adopted 16 September 1937. League of Nations document C.390.
1937.VI.

Resolution of the Assembly on Palestine, adopted on 30 September 1937.
League of Nations, Official Journal, Special Supplement No. 168
(October 1937) p. 28.

Records of the Twentieth (Conclusion) and the Twenty-first Ordinary
Sessions of the Assembly. Text of the Debates at the Plenary
Meetings and Minutes of the First and Second Committees.
Resolutions on Mandates, adopted on 18 April 1946. (Twenty-first
session of Assembly, Official Journal, Special Supplement, No. 194,
p. 254).

Sessions of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of
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policies were discussed:

Fifth Session (extraordinary), Minutes, 23 October -
6 November 1924. (C.617.M.216.1924.VI).

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1925.VI).

Ninth Session. Minutes, 8-25 June 1926. (C.405.M.144.1926.VI.)
(1926.VI.A.18).

Eleventh Session. Minutes, 20 June - 6 July 1927. (C.348.M.122.
1927.VI.).

Thirteenth Session. Minutes, 12-29 June 1928. (C.341.M.99.
1928.VI.) (1928.VI.A.9.).

Fifteenth Session. Minutes, 1-19 July 1929. (C.305.M.105.
1929.VI) (1929.VI.A.2.).

Seventeenth Session (extraordinary). Minutes, 3-21 June 1930,
VI.A.1. (1930.VI.A.1.).

Twentieth Session, Minutes, 9-27 June 1931. (C.422.M.176.1931.
VI.) (1931.VI.A.1.).

Twenty-second Session, Minutes, 3 November - 6 December 1932.
(C.772.M.364.1932.VI.) (1932.VI.A.2.).

Twenty-third Session. Minutes, 19 June - 1 July 1933. (C.406.M.
209.VI.A.) (1933.VI.1.).

/Twenty-fifth Session.

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Twenty-fifth Session. Minutes, 30 May - 12 June 1934. (C.259.M.108.1934.VI.A.) (1934.VI.A.1.).

Twenty-seventh Session, Minutes, 3-18 June 1935. (C.251.M.123.1935.VI.A.) (1935.VI.A.1.).

Twenty-ninth Session. Minutes, 27 May - 12 June 1936. (C.259.M.153.1936.VI.) (1936.VI.A.1.).

Thirty-second Session (extraordinary). Minutes, 30 July - 18 August 1937. (C.330.M.222.1937.VI) (1937.VI.A.3.).

Thirty-fourth Session. Minutes, 8-23 June 1938. (C.216.M.119.1938.VI.) (1938.VI.A.1.).

Thirty-sixth Session, Minutes, 9-29 June 1939, (C.170.M.100.1939.VI.) (1939.VI.A.1.).

The Mandates System. Origin-Principles-Application. Geneva, League of Nations, 1945. Series of League of Nations Publications, 1945. VI.A.1. See p. 77.

(ii) League of Arab States

Pact of the Arab League. Printed and distributed by The Arab Office, Washington. (Signed 22 March 1945).

(iii) United Nations

Charter of the United Nations. Text in English, French, Russian, Chinese, and Spanish. United Nations, New York, 1946.

General Assembly; First Session, First Part, London 1946. Journals, Nos. 8, 9, 10.

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Terms of League of Nations Mandates. New York, 1946. A/73.

Communications concerning Palestine submitted by the Governments of Egypt and Iraq, June 1946. Press Release GA/5.

Trusteeship Agreement for New Guinea, adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 1946. T/8.

Trusteeship Agreement for Ruanda-Urundi, adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 1946. T/8.

/Trusteeship Agreement

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Trusteeship Agreement for Cameroons under French Mandate,
adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 1946. T/8.

Trusteeship Agreement for Togoland under French Mandate,
adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 1946. T/8.

Trusteeship Agreement for Western Samoa, adopted by the
General Assembly on 13 December 1946. T/8.

Trusteeship Agreement for Tanganyika, adopted by the
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A/64/Add.1, 15 January 1947.

Draft Trusteeship Agreement for former Japanese Mandated Islands,
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United Nations S/318

(b) United Kingdom Government

Balfour Declaration, 2 November 1917. Quoted in Report of
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Final Drafts of the Mandates for Mesopotamia and Palestine for
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London, 1921. Cmd. 1500.

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with Correspondence Relating Thereto. London, 1921. Cmd. 1540.

Correspondence with the Palestine Arab Delegation and the
Zionist Organization. London, 1922. Cmd. 1700. Contents:
The Palestine Arab Delegation to the Secretary of State for the
Colonies, 21 February 1922; The Colonial Office to the
Palestine Arab Delegation, 1 March 1922; The Palestine Arab
Delegation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies,
16 March 1922; The Colonial Office to the Palestine Arab
Delegation, 11 April 1922; The Colonial Office to the Zionist
Organization, 3 June 1922 (Enclosure, British Policy in
Palestine); The Palestine Arab Delegation to the
Secretary of State for Colonies, 17 June 1922; The Zionist
Organization to the Colonial Office, 18 June 1922; The
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23 June 1922; The Secretary of State for the Colonies to
the Officer Administering the Government of Palestine,
29 June 1922.

/Mandate for

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Mandate for Palestine together with a note by the Secretary-General relating to its Application to the Territory known as Transjordan, under the Provisions of Article 25. London, 1922 (Reprinted, 1939). Cmd. 1785.

Agreement between His Majesty's Government and the French Government respecting the Boundary Line between Syria and Palestine from the Mediterranean to El Hammé. (With three maps). London, 1923. Cmd. 1910.

Protocol of 30 April 1923, and the Agreements Subsidiary to the Treaty with King Feisal, signed 10 October 1922. London, 1924. Cmd. 2120.

Convention between the United Kingdom and the United States of America respecting the Rights of the Governments of the two Countries and their respective Nationals in Palestine, Signed at London, 3 December 1924. London, 1925. Cmd. 2559.

Treaty with King Feisal signed at Baghdad, 13 January 1926, with Explanatory Note. London, 1926. Cmd. 2587.

Statement with regard to British Policy. London, 1930. Cmd. 3582.

Notes Exchanged with the Iraq Prime Minister Embodying the Separate Agreement on Financial Questions referred to in the second Exchange of Notes appended to the Anglo-Iraq Treaty of 30 June 1930, (Cmd. 3627). London, 1930. Cmd. 3675.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development. By Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. London, 1930. Cmd. 3686. See Appendix containing maps in Cmd. 3687.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development. By Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., Appendix Containing Maps (in continuation of Cmd. 3686). London, 1930. Cmd. 3687.

Statement of Policy by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. London, 1930. Cmd. 3692.

Proposed New Constitution for Palestine. London, 1936. Cmd. 5119.

Exchange of Notes between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Egyptian Government regarding Commercial Relations between Palestine and Egypt, Cairo, 18 August 1936. London, 1937. Cmd. 5361.

Exchange of Notes between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of Iraq regarding Commercial Relations between Palestine and Iraq, Baghdad, 14 December 1936. London, 1937. Cmd. 5372.

Palestine Royal Commission. Memoranda Prepared by the Government of Palestine. London, 1937. Colonial No. 133.

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Palestine Royal Commission. Summary of Report (with Extracts).
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Correspondence with the United States Government regarding United
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Policy in Palestine. Despatch dated 23 December 1937, from the
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for Palestine. London, 1938. Cmd. 5634.

Palestine Partition Commission. Report. London, 1938. Cmd. 5854.

Statement by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.
London, 1938. Cmd. 5893.

Correspondence between Sir Henry McMahon, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.,
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Sherif Hussein of Mecca, July 1915 - March 1916. London, 1939.
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Statements made on behalf of His Majesty's Government during the
year 1918 in regard to the Future Status of Certain Parts of
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Report of a Committee set up to consider Certain Correspondence
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Egypt) and The Sherif of Mecca in 1915 and 1916, 16 March 1939.
London, 1939. Cmd. 5974.

Statement of Policy. London, 1939. Cmd. 6019.

Agreement between Palestine and Syria and the Lebanon amending the
Agreement of 2 February 1926, regarding Frontier Questions,
3 November 1938. London, 1939. Cmd. 6065.

Palestine Land Transfers Regulations. Letter to the
Secretary-General of the League of Nations, London,
28 February 1940. London, 1940. Cmd. 6180.

Statement by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on Appointment
of Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. Hansard, Vol. 415, No. 37,
Col. 1930, 13 November 1945.

Treaty of Alliance between His Majesty in respect of the United
Kingdom and His Highness the Amir of Transjordan (with Annex and
Exchange of Notes), London 22 March 1946. (Ratifications
exchanged at Amman, 17 June 1946). London, 1946. Cmd. 6916.

Report of the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry regarding the
Problems of European Jewry and Palestine, 20 April 1946. London
1946. Cmd. 6808. Supplement: Maps Relating to the Report of the
Anglo-American Committee, etc., 1. Relief, 2. Rainfall,
3. Population (1944), 4. Land in Jewish Possession (as at
31 December 1944), 5. Land Classification.

/Statement by

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Statement by Prime Minister on Report of Anglo-American Committee.
Hansard, Vol. 422, No. 129, col. 195, 1 May 1946.

Statement by Prime Minister on Situation in Palestine. Hansard,
Vol. 424, No. 166, col. 1914, 1 July 1946.

Palestine. Statement of Information Relating to Acts of Violence.
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Statement by Lord President of the Council on the situation in
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The System of Education of the Jewish Community in Palestine.
Report of the Commission of Enquiry appointed by the Secretary
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No. 201.

Statement by Secretary of State for the Colonies on Jewish
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Statement by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on failure of
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Statements by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and the
Colonies announcing decision to refer question of Palestine to
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London, 1947. Cmd. 7044. (Palestine No. 1, 1947)

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(No. 18 of 1940), Amman, 19 July 1941. London, 1947. Cmd. 7063.

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1 July 1920-30 June 1921. London, 1921. Cmd. 1499.

Report on Palestine Administration, July 1920-December 1921.
London, 1922.

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Colonial No. 5.

Report by H.M. Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain
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on the Administration of Palestine and Transjordan for the
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/Government of Palestine

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Department of Labor. Annual Report for 1943. Government of Palestine, Jerusalem.

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Report by the Treasurer on the Financial Transactions of the Palestine Government. Annual Reports for the years 1934-35, 1936-37, and 1937-38. Government of Palestine, Jerusalem.

(c) Governments Other Than the United Kingdom

(i) Arab States (Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Transjordan, Yemen)

The Problem of Palestine. Evidence submitted by the Arab Office, Jerusalem, to the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, March 1946. The Arab Office, Washington.

The First and Last. (Extracts relevant to Palestine from the Report submitted to President Wilson by the King-Crane commission in 1919). The Arab Office, Washington.

Note: The King-Crane Report has not been published by the United States Government.

(ii) CHINA

Statement endorsing Zionist aspirations (1918). Quoted in Hearings before the Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, 67th Congress, Res. 52.

(iii) EGYPT

Communication submitted to the Secretary-General concerning Palestine, June 1946. United Nations Press Release GA/5.

(iv) FRANCE

Statement endorsing Zionist aspirations (1918). Quoted in Hearings before Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, 67th Congress, Res. 52.

Agreement between His Majesty's Government and the French Government respecting the boundary line between Syria and Palestine from the Mediterranean to El Hammé. (with three maps). London, 1923. Cmd. 1910.

(v) GREECE

Statement endorsing Zionist aspirations. Quoted in Hearings before Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, 67th Congress, Res. 52.

(vi) IRAQ

Protocol of 30 April 1923, and the Agreements Subsidiary to the treaty with King Feisal, signed 10 October 1922. London, 1924. Cmd. 2120.

Treaty with King Feisal signed at Baghdad, 13 January 1926, with explanatory note. London, 1926. Cmd. 2587.

/Notes exchanged

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(vi) IRAQ (Continued)

Notes exchanged with the Iraq Prime Minister embodying the separate Agreement on Financial Questions referred to in the second exchange of notes appended to the Anglo-Iraq Treaty of 30 June 1930. (Cmd. 3627). London, 1930. Cmd. 3675

Iraq's Point of View on the Palestine Question. Statement submitted by M. Fadhel Jamali, Ph.D., Director-General of Foreign Affairs of the Iraq Government to the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. The Arab Office, Washington, March 1946.

Communication submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning Palestine, June 1946. United Nations Press Release GA/5.

(vii) NETHERLANDS

Statement endorsing Zionist aspirations (1918). Quoted in Hearings before Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, 67th Congress, Res. 52.

(viii) SAUDI ARABIA

Letter from President Roosevelt to King Ibn Saud. Dept. of State Bulletin, Vol. XIII, no. 330, 21 October 1945, p. 790.

Exchange of letters between King of Saudi Arabia and President Truman. Dept. of State Bulletin, Vol. XV, no. 384, 10 November 1946, p. 848.

(ix) SIAM

Statement endorsing Zionist aspirations (1918). Quoted in Hearings before Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, 67th Congress, Res. 52.

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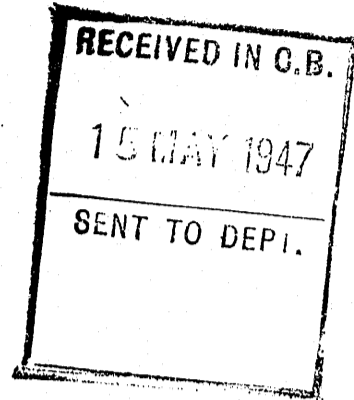
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QUESTION OF PALESTINE

ARTICLE 22 OF THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

1. To those colonies and territories which as a consequence of the late war have ceased to be under the sovereignty of the States which formerly governed them and which are inhabited by peoples not yet able to stand by themselves under the strenuous conditions of the modern world, there should be applied the principle that the well-being and development of such peoples form a sacred trust of civilization and that securities for the performance of this trust should be embodied in this Covenant.
2. The best method of giving practical effect to this principle is that the tutelage of such peoples should be entrusted to advanced nations who by reason of their resources, their experience or their geographical position can best undertake this responsibility, and who are willing to accept it, and that this tutelage should be exercised by them as Mandatories on behalf of the League.
3. The character of the mandate must differ according to the stage of the development of the people, the geographical situation of the territory, its economic conditions and other similar circumstances.
4. Certain communities formerly belonging to the Turkish Empire have reached a stage of development where their existence as independent nations can be provisionally recognized subject to the rendering of administrative advice and assistance by a Mandatory until such time as they are able to stand alone. The wishes of these communities must be a principal consideration in the selection of the Mandatory.
5. Other peoples, especially those of Central Africa, are at such a stage that the Mandatory must be responsible for the administration of the territory /under conditions

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under conditions which will guarantee freedom of conscience and religion, subject only to the maintenance of public order and morals, the prohibition of abuses such as the slave trade, the arms traffic and the liquor traffic, and the prevention of the establishment of fortifications or military and naval bases and of military training of the natives for other than police purposes and the defence of territory, and will also secure equal opportunities for the trade and commerce of other Members of the League.

6. There are territories, such as South West Africa and certain of the South Pacific Islands, which, owing to the sparseness of their population, or their small size, or their remoteness from the centres of civilization, or their geographical contiguity to the territory of the Mandatory, and other circumstances, can be best administered under the laws of the Mandatory as integral portions of its territory, subject to the safeguards above mentioned in the interests of the indigenous population.

7. In every case of mandate, the Mandatory shall render to the Council an annual report in reference to the territory committed to its charge.

8. The degree of authority, control, or administration to be exercised by the Mandatory shall, if not previously agreed upon by the Members of the League, be explicitly defined in each case by the Council.

9. A permanent Commission shall be constituted to receive and examine the annual reports of the Mandatories and to advise the Council on all matters relating to the observance of the mandates.

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**GENERAL
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**ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE**

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A/299
2 May 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the General Committee

ADVANCE COPY

The General Assembly, at its 69th plenary meeting, referred to the General Committee the consideration of certain communications received from organizations which have asked for the opportunity of expressing their views concerning the items of business for which this Special Session was called, and instructed it to make recommendations thereon to the plenary meeting with regard to the procedure for dealing with them.

The General Committee, having considered this matter at its 32nd and 33rd meetings adopted, by eleven affirmative votes with three abstentions, the following resolution:

"THE GENERAL COMMITTEE, having considered the communications referred to it by the President of the General Assembly from the Jewish Agency and other organizations requesting that they be permitted to express their views on the Palestine problem,

RECOMMENDS to the General Assembly that it refer these communications, as well as any communications of a similar character which may be submitted to this Special Session, to the First Committee for its decisions."

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GENERALE**

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5 May 1947

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COMMUNICATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Resolution Submitted by the Delegation of Uruguay

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Determined to give careful consideration to the points of view of all parties qualified to speak on the question of Palestine,

RESOLVES

To invite the Representatives of the Jewish Agency for Palestine to set forth its views on this question before the First Committee of the General Assembly.

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**GENERAL
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**ASSEMBLEE
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A/301
5 May 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Amendment submitted by the Delegation of Yugoslavia to the
Resolution proposed by the General Committee (Document A/299)

Second paragraph

RECOMMENDS to the General Assembly that it decides to give a
hearing to the Jewish Agency and other representatives of the
population of Palestine, before the First Committee.

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GENERALE

142
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A/302
5 May 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Resolution Submitted by the Delegation of Chile

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Considering the need of having wide and complete information concerning the question for which the Special Session of the General Assembly was convoked

And recognizing the special legal position of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in the Mandate of the League of Nations;

RESOLVES

1. That the First Committee invite the Agency to state to the Committee its point of view;
 2. To send to that same Committee, for its decision, any other communications already received or which may be submitted to this Special Session.
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A/303
5 May 1947

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144

ADVANCED

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Resolution submitted by the Delegation of Argentina

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY having considered the report of the General Committee about the communications from the Jewish Agency and other organizations requesting that they be permitted to express their views of the Palestine problem,

DECIDES to refer these communications, as well as any communications of a similar character, to the First Committee,

DECIDES furthermore to instruct the First Committee to hear the representatives of the Jewish Agency recognized as a "public body" by Article 4 of the mandate on Palestine.

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**GENERAL
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**ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE**

A/304
5 May 1947

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146

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Amendment to the Resolution Proposed by the General Committee
(Document A/299), submitted by the Delegation of Byelorussia

Second paragraph:

RECOMMENDS to the General Assembly that it decides to give a hearing
to the Jewish Agency before the First Committee.

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**GENERAL
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A/305
5 May 1947

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COMMUNICATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Joint Resolution submitted by the
Delegations of Chile, Uruguay, Byelorussia, Yugoslavia and Argentina

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RESOLVES

1. That the First Committee grant a hearing to the Jewish Agency
for Palestine on the question before the Committee;

2. To send to that same Committee for its decision those other
communications of a similar character from the Palestinian population
which have been received by this Special Session of the General Assembly
or may later on be submitted to it.

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**ASSEMBLEE
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A/306
7 May 1947

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PROPOSAL OF THE PRESIDENT*

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY affirms that the decision of the First Committee to grant a hearing to the Arab Higher Committee gives a correct interpretation to the Assembly's intention.

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E 3986

1947

PALESTINE

14 MAY

151

Registry Number

E 3986/426/31

FROM

United Nations

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

A 287

21 April 1947

14 May 1947

Palestine and U.N.

Search copy of U.N. Document A/287 of 21 April. Request from Egyptian Govt for inclusion of additional item in agenda of first Special Session of General Assembly.

Last Paper.

(3985)

References.

(Minutes.)

g.a. P.P.	U.N.	A/288	23/4	✓
-	-	A/289	23/4	✓ INDEXED
-	-	A/290	23/4	✓
-	-	A/291	23/4	✓

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20/6/46

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Mr. Goodwin

Mr. Heathcote-Smith

.....
Eastern Dept
.....

.....
Egyptian Dept
.....

.....
Mr. Stafford Smith
.....

Mr. Fleming (Cabinet Offices)

Mr. Pimlott (Lord President's Office)

Mr. G. M. Wilson (Cabinet Offices)

Sir A. Rucker (Min. of Health)

Mr. Shackle (Board of Trade)

Mr. Pitblado (Treasury)

Mr. J. E. Wall (Min. of Food)

Mr. W. R. Richardson (Min. of Education)

Mr. W. W. Burkett (Min. of Civil Aviation)

Mrs. Walker (Min. of Transport)

Mr. J. S. Bennett (Colonial Office)

Mr. G. B. Shannon (Dominions Office)

Mr. J. P. Gibson (Burma Office)

Mr. J. J. W. Handford (Scottish Office)

Sir Sydney Harris (Home Office)

Mr. H. Townshend (G.P.O.)

Dr. G. North (Registrar-General)

Mr. B. R. Curson (India Office)

Mr. H. G. Gee (Min. of Labour)

Mr. J. S. Nicholson (Min. of Nat. Insurance)

Mr. J. Stafford (C. Stat. Office)

Major W. H. Coles (Home Office)

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**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

**ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE**

A/287
21 April 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ADVANCE COPY

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

REQUEST FROM THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT FOR THE INCLUSION
OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FIRST
SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The following telegram has been received by the Secretary-General:

Washington D. C.
21 April 1947

His Excellency Trygve Lie
Secretary-General United Nations

SIR I HAVE THE HONOUR TO ADVISE THAT ACCORDING TO INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED FROM MY GOVERNMENT AND IN CONFORMITY OF ARTICLE 18 OF THE PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE ROYAL EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTS TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ITEM ON THE AGENDA OF THE FORTHCOMING EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH IS TO DEAL WITH THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE ON THE 28TH OF APRIL 1947. THE ITEM READS AS FOLLOWS: THE TERMINATION OF THE MANDATE OVER PALESTINE AND THE DECLARATION OF ITS INDEPENDENCE. ACCEPT SIR THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION

MAHMOUD HASSAN
EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR

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United Nations Department

✓ Classification Branch

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Sir E. Hall-Patch

Mr. Jebb

Mr. Troutbeck

Mr. Beckett

Mr. Gallop

Mr. R. B. Stevens

Mr. C. J. Edmonds

Miss Powell

Mr. Mason

Mr. Gore-Booth

Mr. Hebblethwaite

Mr. Goodwin

Mr. Heathcote-Smith

Eastern Dept

Egyptian Dept

Mr. Chafford Smith Co. Major W. H. Coles (Home Office)

Mr. Fleming (Cabinet Offices)

Mr. Pimlott (Lord President's Office)

Mr. G. M. Wilson (Cabinet Offices)

Sir A. Rucker (Min. of Health)

Mr. Shackle (Board of Trade)

Mr. Pitblado (Treasury)

Mr. J. E. Wall (Min. of Food)

Mr. W. R. Richardson (Min. of Education)

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Mrs. Walker (Min. of Transport)

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Mr. J. J. W. Handford (Scottish Office)

Sir Sydney Harris (Home Office)

Mr. H. Townshend (G.P.O.)

Dr. G. North (Registrar-General)

Mr. B. R. Curson (India Office)

Mr. H. G. Gee (Min. of Labour)

Mr. J. S. Nicholson (Min. of Nat. Insurance)

Mr. J. Stafford (C. Stat. Office)

Major W. H. Coles (Home Office)

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[33489] (4)

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**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

**ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE**

A/288
23 April 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

REQUEST FROM THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT FOR THE INCLUSION
OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FIRST
SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The following letter has been received by the Secretary-General:

Embassy of Iraq
Washington, D.C.

21 April 1947

Excellency:

I have the honor to inform you that I have been instructed by my Government to request you, in accordance with Rule 18 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly, to include the following as an additional item in the Agenda of the Special Session of the General Assembly convening on April 28, 1947:

The Termination of the Mandate over Palestine
and the Declaration of its Independence.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Ali Jawdat
The Ambassador

His Excellency
Trygve Lie
The Secretary-General
The United Nations
Lake Success, New York.

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Reference

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Sir E. Hall-Patch
Mr. Jebb
 Mr. Troutbeck
Mr. Beckett
Mr. Gallop
 Mr. R. B. Stevens
 Mr. C. J. Edmonds
 Miss Powell
Mr. Mason
Mr. Gore-Booth
Mr. Hebblethwaite
Mr. Goodwin
Mr. Heathcote-Smith

Eastern Dept

Egyptian Dept

Mr. Fleming (Cabinet Offices)
 Mr. Pimlott (Lord President's Office)
Mr. G. M. Wilson (Cabinet Offices)
Sir A. Rucker (Min. of Health)
 Mr. Shackle (Board of Trade)
 Mr. Pitblado (Treasury)
 Mr. J. E. Wall (Min. of Food)
 Mr. W. R. Richardson (Min. of Education)
 Mr. W. W. Burkett (Min. of Civil Aviation)
 Mrs. Walker (Min. of Transport)
Mr. J. S. Bennett (Colonial Office)
Mr. G. B. Shannon (Dominions Office)
Mr. J. P. Gibson (Burma Office)
 Mr. J. J. W. Handford (Scottish Office)
 Sir Sydney Harris (Home Office)
 Mr. H. Townshend (G.P.O.)
 Dr. G. North (Registrar-General)
 Mr. B. R. Curson (India Office)
 Mr. H. G. Gee (Min. of Labour)
 Mr. J. S. Nicholson (Min. of Nat. Insurance)
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[33489] (4)

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**GENERAL
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**ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE**

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A/289
23 April 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

REQUEST FROM THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT FOR THE INCLUSION
OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FIRST
SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ADVANCE COPY

The following telegram has been received by the Secretary-General:

WASHINGTON, D.C.

22 APRIL 1947

TRYGVE LIE

I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOU THAT I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY MY GOVERNMENT TO REQUEST YOU, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 18 OF THE PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENING ON APRIL 28 1947: THE TERMINATION OF THE MANDATE OVER PALESTINE AND THE DECLARATION OF ITS INDEPENDENCE. PLEASE ACCEPT EXCELLENCY THE RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

COSTI K ZURAYK MINISTER OF SYRIA

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~~Mr. Troutbeck~~

Mr. Beckett

Mr. Gallop

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Mr. C. J. Edmonds

Miss Powell

Mr. Mason

Mr. Gore-Booth

Mr. Hebblethwaite

Mr. Goodwin

Mr. Heathcote-Smith

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Egyptna Dept

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**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

**ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE**

UNRESTRICTED

A/290
23 April 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ADVANCE COPY

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

REQUEST FROM THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT FOR THE INCLUSION
OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FIRST SPECIAL
SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The following telegram has been received by the Secretary-General:

WASHINGTON, D.C.

22 APRIL 1947

TRYGVE LIE

EXCELLENCY I HAVE THE HONOR TO STATE THAT I AM INSTRUCTED BY MY
GOVERNMENT TO REQUEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE EIGHTEEN OF THE PROVISIONAL
RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE INCLUSION
OF THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTHCOMING SPECIAL
SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SCHEDULED TO OPEN ON APRIL 28 1947
"THE TERMINATION OF THE MANDATE ON AND THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE
TO PALESTINE" ACCEPT EXCELLENCY THE RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST
CONSIDERATION

CHARLES MALIK MINISTER OF LEBANON IN THE UNITED STATES

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Miss Powell

Mr. Mason

Mr. Gore-Booth

Mr. Hebblethwaite

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Egyptian Dept

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Mr. Goodwin

Mr. Heathcote-Smith

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Mr. Fleming (Cabinet Offices)

Mr. Pimlott (Lord President's Office)

Mr. G. M. Wilson (Cabinet Offices)

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GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE

UNRESTRICTED

A/298
1 May, 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY LIST
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

ADVANCE COPY

1. THE GENERAL COMMITTEE having considered at its 28th and 29th meetings the item on the Provisional Agenda (document A/293) entitled "Constituting and Instructing a Special Committee to Prepare for the Consideration of the Question of Palestine at the Second Regular Session" submitted by the Government of the United Kingdom,
RECOMMENDS that the item be placed on the Agenda of the General Assembly and referred for consideration to the First Committee.
2. THE GENERAL COMMITTEE after due consideration of the Supplementary List (document A/294) at its 30th and 31st meetings, decided not to recommend the inclusion of the item entitled "The Termination of the Mandate over Palestine and the Declaration of its Independence" submitted by the Governments of Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.
One member voted for the recommendation to include the item on the Agenda, eight members voted against and five abstained.

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368

1947

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E 4000 16H

14 MAY

Registry Number

E 4000/46/31

TELEGRAM FROM

U.R. Del

No.

New York

Dated

1373

Received in Registry

13, 14 May

Polistina, Special Committee

Refer New York tel 1367 (E 3953/46/31)
Holds on May 12, the discussion in the
first committee took a more acrimonious
turn. The Syrian delegate in a declaration subsequently
endorsed an label of 'Beds-lookis, Iraq Lebanon',
stated that no recommendations incompatible
with Arab demands would be accepted by
Syrian Govt. or People.

Last Paper.

1986

(Minutes.)

References.

UN Dept. 440

D.S. Quint
May 16

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

J. E. Morgan

(Index)

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper.

E 4003

32008 F.O.P.

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Reference

FO 371

61777

E 4000

165

14 MAY

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Cypher/OTP.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1373.

D. 11.11 a.m. 13th May, 1947.

R. 6.10 p.m. 13th May, 1947.

13th May, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Moscow,
Washington - Saving.

IMPORTANT
GIANT.

My telegram 1367.

Palestine.

On the 12th May the discussion in the First Committee took a more acrimonious turn. The Syrian Delegate in a declaration subsequently endorsed on behalf of Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Lebanon stated that no recommendations incompatible with the Arab demands would be accepted by the Syrian Government or people.

2. The Polish Delegate then made a long speech to the general effect that the Palestine problem arose not from an Arab-Jewish conflict but from a conflict between Arabs and Jews on one side and the British Administration on the other. He dwelt on the lack of civil liberties in Palestine and suggested among other things the release of all political prisoners. The Polish Government while desiring the freedom of the Arab peoples (including their freedom from the "Protectorate of certain great powers") was committed to sympathy with Zionism.

3. Janali in a rather hysterical reply to this said that support for Jewish national aspirations was equivalent to a declaration of war on the Arab.

4. Spokesmen of the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee answered the questions put to them at their previous hearings. Shertok defined the problems as a clash between the dire need of the Jewish people and the anti-immigration policy of the British Administration. He suggested the exclusion of the United Kingdom from the investigating Committee. Emil Ghoury with an ill-advised defence of the Mufti ending on an anti-semitic note destroyed the good impression made previously by Cattar.

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MAY 14 1947

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Reference
FO 371
61777

5. Ben Gurion was allowed to make a brief statement. The task of the Mandatory Power he said was not to find a solution for the problem of Palestine but to carry out the mandate in which the problem had been settled once and for all. He spoke of a Police State as now imposed on "Our own country".

6. After these exchanges the Committee made good progress with the terms of reference for the Investigating Committee. The following amendments to the draft in my telegram 1360 have been adopted:

Preamble. For the last six words the following was substituted: "A report on the question of Palestine".

Paragraph 1. To this was added:

"and to investigate all questions and issues relevant to the problem of Palestine".

Insert as new paragraph:

"The Special Committee shall determine its own procedure".

Paragraph 2. This now reads:

"The Special Committee shall conduct investigations in Palestine and wherever it may deem useful, receive and examine written or oral testimony whichever it may consider appropriate in each case from the Mandatory Power from representatives of the population of Palestine from Governments and from such organisations and individuals as it may deem necessary".

Paragraph 3. This was deleted.

Foreign Office please pass important to High Commissioner Jerusalem as my telegram 10 and to Moscow as my telegram 190.

[Repeated to Moscow and copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to High Commissioner Jerusalem].

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1947

E

E 4003 167

PALESTINE

MAY

Registry Number

E 4003/46/31

TELEGRAM FROM

U.K. Del.

No.

New York

Dated

1374

Received in Registry

13. May 1947
14

Palastina and U.N.

Refer #0 tel 1391 E 3929/46/31) message to Trafford Smith from ~~London~~, ~~London~~ you have been receiving 11 documents and that copies are being forwarded to M/C. Has received only one batch of Palastina (ts), but checks is sufficiently informed. Gives further points.

Last Paper.

4000

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)
A copy of Sir A. Hodgson's telegram has been sent to Mr. Trafford Smith. Please note para 4.

Roberts
(S. G. ARBEE)
14/5

RS
14/5

(Action completed.)

G. E. M. 16/5

(Index.)

16/5
20/6/48

Next Paper.

E 4043

32008 F.O.P.

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Reference FO 371 / 61777

E 4003

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to
the United Nations)

No. 1374

D. 11.05 a.m. May 13th, 1947.

May 13th, 1947.

R. 5.35 p.m. May 13th, 1947.

SSSSS

Confidential for Trafford Smith Colonial Office
from Martin.

[Begins]

Your message in Foreign Office telegram No. 1391.
Please see Sir A. Cadogan's reply to High Commissioner
in telegram repeated to Foreign Office as No. 1365.

2. I assume that you have been receiving United
Nations minutes and other documents sent to Foreign
Office by bag and that copies are being forwarded to
High Commissioner.

3. Have received only one batch of Palestine
telegrams (containing none later than Secretary of
State's telegram to High Commissioner No. 834 of 28th
April) but I think I am sufficiently informed for
present purposes.

4. Indications are that Assembly's work will be
completed at latest by early next week. We cannot yet
say how and when fact-finding committee will begin their
enquiry but unless it appears desirable to wait for that
Beeley and I will return by Queen Elizabeth sailing
24th May due Southampton 29th. If time allows we
propose to pay a short visit to Washington.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for Trafford Smith]

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MAY 14 1947

370

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E 4043

1169

PALESTINE

15 MAY

Registry Number } E 4043/46/31
TELEGRAM FROM

No. U.K. Rel.

Dated New York.

Received in Registry } 1384
14 May 1947
15

Relevant Committee of Investigation
Refer to tel to Montevideo, 79 E 3753/46/31
Pala. USA suggested without consulting HM. Rep.
to report presented upon enclosing committee
investigation, has added, Yugoslavia, Guatemala
India and Australia to original seven on US
list. Except for Australia all additions were
Gromyko's proposed candidates.

Last Paper.

4003

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel, Lima 121
Rptd W. L. Or 4909
New York 1462
May 16

(Action completed)

[Signature]
6/2/5

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

E4051

(Minutes.)

Repeated to Prague.
We should presumably take immediate
action accordingly, provided S.A. Dept &
Northern Dept see no objection. (NA. Dept &
Southern Dept)

Northern Dept may wish to amend
the tel: to Prague to see in the light of the
state of our relations with Czechoslovakia.

S.A. Dept to
16/5
Lima
Prague, E 474

[Signature]
V. 5/5

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References

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E 4043 170

15 MAY

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations).

No. 1384.

D. 12.50 a.m. 14th May, 1947.

14th May, 1947.

R. 7.28 p.m. 14th May, 1947.

Repeated to Lima,
Guatemala,
Montevideo,
Washington (Saving).

3 3 3

IMMEDIATE.

GIANT.

27/5/47
Your telegram No. 79 to Montevideo: Palestine.

United States of America, surrender without consulting us to Soviet insistence upon enlarging committee of investigation, has added Yugoslavia, Guatemala, India and Australia to original seven on United States list. Except for Australia all these additions were Gromyko's favoured candidates. Their election was adroitly rushed through in full committee to fill the vacuum created by Australian insistence upon a committee of eleven; without any apparent thought on the part of Australia as to who, other than Australia, was to be added to the previously well-balanced list.

2. Only corrective I can see is urgent persuasion of the Governments concerned with the object of having representatives nominated who will as far as possible resist Soviet manoeuvring (through Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and possibly India) for a biased or unworkable report.

3. I therefore suggest an early and personal approach by His Majesty's Minister to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, congratulating him on Guatemala's election and expressing the earnest hope that he will personally and very carefully consider the nomination of an unbiased and well-qualified representative who will do his country credit as Guatemalan member of committee of investigation on Palestine.

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4. Confidential. Garcia Granados is generally accused by his Latin-American colleagues of being a Soviet stooge and his anti-British bias would make him a most unsuitable choice.

5. Uruguayan representative to this Assembly has also unfortunately reinforced by his actions the previous impression that he was in the Soviet and Zionist pockets. I therefore trust that he will not be appointed to this committee.

6. Lavalle of Peru is, on the other hand, competent and unostentatiously friendly. I should welcome his appointment if he can serve on the committee. If not, the action suggested in paragraph 3 would be useful in this case also.

7. As the committee must get to work at once the appointment of nominees is likely to take place without delay with a reference in favour of those already here who are not all well qualified.

8. You may therefore think it worth while to discuss this matter with remaining Governments on the committee especially with Czechoslovakia whose nominee may well play a momentous part in the committee's proceedings.

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Reference
FO 371 / **61777**

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 W.L. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry No.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

I.
P.
G.

Draft.

Lima.

Telegram.

No. 121

(Date) May 1947

Repeat to :-

Washington
New York
(O.K. D.C.)

Exclax.
Code.
Cypher.

Distribution :-

World Organisation

Copies to :-

OUT FILE

F. O.,

May 1947.

Despatched

M.

172

IMMEDIATE
GIANT

New York telegram No. 1384 [of 14th
May: Palestine. Paragraph 6.

Please make discreet enquiries, and,
if necessary, take ~~such action as you~~
~~properly can to encourage~~ the Peruvian
Government to appoint Lavalle ~~interim~~ as
Peruvian representative to the Committee.
If however the ~~intention~~ Peruvian Government
do not feel able to give the appointment
to Monsieur Lavalle, ^{then} please speak on the
lines of paragraph 3 of New York telegram
under reference.

such action as you possible properly
can to encourage the Peruvian
Govt to appoint ^{LAVALLE} ~~interim~~ or, if that is not
possible, a suitable ~~substitute~~ alternative
(cf para. 3 of telegram under reference).

16/5

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Reference FO 371 61777

OUT FILE

173

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO LIMA

No. 121
16th May, 1947.

D. 3.20 a.m. 17th May, 1947.

Repeated to Washington No. 4909
New York (U.K. Delegation) No. 1462.

Q Q Q

IMMEDIATE
GIANT

New York telegram No. 1384 [of 14th May: Palestine]. Paragraph 6.

Please make discreet enquiries, and, if necessary, take such action as you properly can to encourage the Peruvian Government to appoint Lavalle or, if that is not possible, a suitable alternative (c.f. paragraph 3 of telegram under reference).

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference
FO 371 / 61777

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371

E

E 4051

174

1947

PALESTINE

15 MAY

Registry Number } E4051/46/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No. U.K. Del.
New York.

Dated 1388.
Received in Registry } 14, May 1947
15 - - -

Palestine, Special Committee.
Refer New York tel 1373 (E 4000/46/31)
State Dept Committee concluded its work on May 13
Joint proposal referred to in para 12 of tel 1367
was defeated, remaining paras of draft contained
in tel 1360 were amended as follows, final
list.

Last Paper.

4043

(Minutes.)

This is superseded by N. York

References.

No. 1401

J.B. May 19

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

J. M. [Signature]

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

E 4055

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference FO 371 / 61777

E 175

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE. E 4051

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

15 MAY

No. 1388.

D. 6.04 p.m. 14th May, 1947.
R. 1.00 a.m. 15th May, 1947.

14th May, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Moscow,
Washington - Saving.

IMMEDIATE

GIANT.

My telegram No. 1373.

Palestine.

The First Committee concluded its work on the 13th May. The Soviet proposal referred to in paragraph 4 of my telegram 1367 was defeated. The remaining paragraphs of the draft contained in my telegram 1360 were amended as follows:

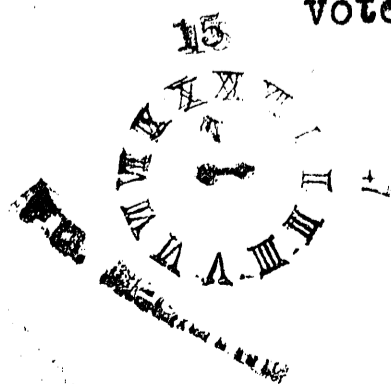
Paragraph 5. The words "if possible by 15th August, 1947 but in any event" were deleted. "Member States" became "Members".

Paragraph 6. The words "to the interests of all inhabitants of Palestine and also" were deleted.

2. I have not reported small changes of form and a re-arrangement of paragraphs. The revised text will be telegraphed as soon as it is adopted by the Assembly.

3. The composition of the Investigating Committee was next considered. Soviet and Polish resolutions for the inclusion of the Big Five were defeated. The United States had proposed a Committee of 7 "small" States, which we undertook to support. The Australians however introduced a proposal for a Committee of 11 members excluding the permanent members of the Security Council and this was put to the vote before the American proposal. I voted against it but Austin settled the fate of his own proposal by voting for the Australian alternative which was carried by 13 votes to 11 with 29 abstentions. The authority of this vote was unsuccessfully challenged by Gromyko.

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61777

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4. The United States list was unchanged consisting of Canada, the Netherlands, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Persia, Peru and Uruguay. The Chilean Delegate who had wanted a Committee of 9, had proposed the addition of Guatemala and Yugoslavia. This was agreed and the Committee then decided to complete the 11 by adding one Asiatic State and one from the Pacific. India was chosen to represent Asia by 34 votes to Siam's 7. Australia was elected to the last place obtaining 21 votes against 20 for the Philippines.

5. As shown in my telegram 1384 I am not altogether happy about this list. But the Australian motion and Austin's unexpected vote deprived us of any control over the proceedings.

6. The Committee then approved the first two of the last three paragraphs of the draft in my telegram 1324 the third being dropped as unnecessary. These are slight verbal changes in this text also.

7. The Americans finally declined to incorporate in their draft any paragraph appealing for co-operation in the maintenance of law and order. We are hoping to secure the introduction in Plenary Session of a resolution on the lines of paragraph 3 of my telegram 1323.

8. The Arab Delegates annoyed by the previous day's decisions on the terms of reference, abstained from every vote on the 13th. They explained at the end of the day that they were reserving the right of their Governments to adopt whatever attitude they considered appropriate towards the work of the Investigating Committee. Cattan told a member of the Delegation that the Palestine Arabs are inclined to favour a boycott of the Committee.

9. In this connexion I should explain that I found it necessary on the previous day to vote against the paragraph in the draft terms of reference which would have directed the Committee to regard independence as the ultimate aim of its work. The speeches of the Arab Delegates had invested the word "Independence" with a far from neutral significance and the sense of the meeting was consequently against its insertion.

Foreign Office please repeat immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 11 and to Moscow as my telegram No. 193.

[Repeated to Moscow and Advance copies sent to Colonial Office Telegraph Section for repetition to Jerusalem]

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Reference
FO 371
 61777

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group *Fo*

Class *371*

Piece *61777*

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of the Public Records Act, 1958

E4055/46/31

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References

FO 371 / 61777

378

E

E 4150 177

1947

PALESTINE

17 MAY 1947

Registry Number

E 4150/26/31

FROM

Mr Houston
Baswell

No.

Secret

Dated

11 May 1947

Received in Registry

17 - -

Proposed solution to Palestine Problem.
Enclosed copy of memo by Evans,
which proposes solution to Palestine
Problem, something on lines resembling
the Glegg scheme.

Last Paper.

4 115

(Minutes.)

Helpful but not much use,
I fear. A 50/50 state
would not give the Arabs
much chance and would
hardly be acceptable to Arab
opinion

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Mr Matheson, C.O.

May
3 June

FORB 4/6

Mr Keeley on return
17/2 1947

D.S. Sent
May 20

Copy Mr Matheson C.O.

R.P.
20/5

(Action complete.)

26/6

(Index)

20/6/47

Next Paper.

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Reference
FO 371
61777

E 4150

BRITISH LEGATION,
BEIRUT.

178

11th May, 1947.

My dear Neville,

Before he and I went to Palestine, Evans prepared the enclosed paper which proposes "a solution" of that vexed question something on lines resembling certain recommendations in the past, notably the ~~Grigg~~ Grigg scheme, I believe. He took the opportunity of our visit to discuss his ideas with one or two members of the Secretariat whose reactions appear to have been polite and not altogether discouraging. For example, Grimwood, who deals with Jewish affairs in the Political Section, said that if any such scheme were to be submitted to the Jews at a time when they had lost all hope of solution on a basis of partition they might possibly accept it: if the Arabs thought partition was coming they might be disposed to consider it favourably. Thus everything would depend on putting any such scheme to both sides at the psychological moment. Evans also mentioned his idea to Kirkbride at Amman who thought that it might not be wholly unacceptable to the Arabs. He felt, however, that if such a State as Evans envisages were once launched, it would be fatal for us to try and maintain the parity (actually once we had withdrawn we would not be in a position to do so anyway), but he agreed that this was not a fundamental objection.

/I

N.M. Butler, Esq., C.M.G., C.V.O.,
The Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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References

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RECEIVED IN O.S.
1957

I do not feel competent to express any opinion at all on such a very intricate problem of which I have no practical experience on the spot. But I send the paper to you in the hope that some parts at any rate of Evans' contribution may be helpful.

I am sending copies of this letter to the High Commissioner at Jerusalem and to Kirkbride at Amman, in case the former should think the paper worthy of comment.

Yours ever
William Howard Somwell

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Reference **FO 371** / **61777**

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Attempts to solve the Palestine question on the basis of a Unitary democratic State appear to have failed owing to the refusal by both the Jews and the Arabs to accept minority status in such an independent State. Mr. Ben Gurion stated at the London Conference on the 10th February "for the Jews to become a permanent minority in an Arab State was equal to a sentence of death". Hence the Jewish insistence on continued immigration and their rejection of the 1939 White Paper, the Morrison proposals and finally the Bevin plan. Faris Bey el Khouri on the 4th February said "We will never accept for the Arabs the status of a minority in their own homeland. This is their fundamental reason for opposing further immigration".

Partition which in the abstract at least is a fair compromise has been suggested by the Jews but firmly rejected by the Arabs who would "never acquiesce in any proposal for a Zionist State or bridgehead in Palestine or in any part of it" (Faris el Khouri: 4th February). The "Bevin proposals" were rejected by the Arabs on the grounds that it was "another guise for partition" (Arab Delegation Note of the 10th February). As Professor Brodetsky stated on the 29th January: "The Jews proposed a democratic State with a Jewish majority. The Arabs wanted a democratic State with an Arab majority. A constructive solution must be found somewhere between these two aims. The Arabs have not made any constructive proposal at all. The Jews have suggested partition but are not committed to it".

It is conceivable that such a compromise might be found in a Unitary bi-national State in which Arabs and Jews participated on a numerically equal basis. The requisite parity could be reached either by the introduction of additional Jewish immigrants to bring up the number of Jewish inhabitants to that of the Arabs (a solution which would be rejected out of hand by the Arabs) or by modifying the present frontiers and creating a reduced Palestine in which Arabs and Jews would be numerically equal.

The scheme might be evolved on the following lines:

- (1) The frontiers would in principle be delimited in such a way as to include in the new State as many as possible of the Jews at present resident in Palestine and an equal number of Arabs. The remaining territory would be added to an adjacent Arab State or divided between adjacent Arab States (TransJordan, Syria, Lebanon).
- (2) An independent democratic State on a unitary bi-national basis within such frontiers should be established as soon as possible and admitted to membership of United Nations' Organisation. Jerusalem would be the capital.
- (3) Jews and Arabs would participate in the Government and in the elected legislature on an equal basis. Hebrew and Arabic would be recognised as official languages with equal status.

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Reference
FO 371
61777

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(4) In order to minimise the effects of a possible deadlock which might paralyse the administration, a large measure of local autonomy would be provided for.

(5) The new State would be offered membership of the British Commonwealth with Dominion status and at the same time membership of the Arab League.

(6) In order to permit the new State to contribute to the solution of the problem of Jewish refugees, the delimitation of the frontiers in accordance with (1) above would be effected in such a way as to include in the new State sufficient territory (a) to include approximately 100,000 new Jewish immigrants and a corresponding number of Arab residents, (b) to allow for the increase of the Arab population owing to the higher Arab birthrate and a corresponding number of Jewish immigrants who would be admitted after a census had been taken possibly at 5-yearly intervals. Consideration might in addition be given to the possibility of including certain uninhabited and uncultivated areas which might be developed by the New State and put at the disposal of Jewish immigrants and an equal number of Arab immigrants from over-populated Arab States (e.g. Egypt).

(7) Existing Land Transfer Regulations would be modified and an attempt made to safeguard Arab land owners inter alia by encouraging member States of the Arab League (and possibly of United Nations' Organisation) to provide capital which would enable the Palestinian Arabs to develop their holdings, raise their standard of life and resist Jewish inducements to sell out.

The new State would approximately correspond in size to the Jewish State envisaged by the Peel Commission plus the Jerusalem and Nazareth enclaves. The population in 1938 was as follows:-

<u>Arabs</u>	<u>Jews</u>
294,700 Jewish State	304,900 Jewish State
221,200 Enclaves of Jerusalem and Nazareth.	80,200 Enclaves of Jerusalem and Nazareth.
	100,000 New immigrants.
<hr/> 515,900	<hr/> 485,100

To these must be added in the case of the Jews, the 75,000 immigrants admitted under the 1939 White Paper, and the subsequent monthly quotas, and also illegal immigrants and in the case of the Arabs the increase in population due to the higher Arab birthrate. Thus total population of the new State might then be in the neighbourhood of 1,200,000.

/COMMENTS - . . .

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61777

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COMMENTS - From the point of view of both Arabs and Jews such an arrangement would have the advantage of eliminating their fear of forming a permanent minority which at this risk of over-simplification may be held to be the principal obstacle to the solution of the problem.

From the Jewish point of view, it would have the further merit of admitting a considerable number of new immigrants without delay and of keeping the doors open to continued immigration, albeit on a very limited scale in the future. The fact that with few exceptions all the present Jewish residents and almost all Jewish land holdings would be included could hardly fail to impress that community. It is conceivable that a solution on such lines while not acceptable to Jewish extremists would satisfy the vast majority of Jews, particularly those at present in Palestine. Though it falls short of fulfilling their aspirations for a Jewish State it at least permits them to share in the Government and in international affairs (e.g. the United Nations' Organisation) on a basis of equality with the Arabs of Palestine. As regards the Arab League, such a bi-national State would have the advantage over a Jewish State that it might make co-operation possible. Mr. Ben Gurion in reply to a question by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs stated at the London Conference on the 29th January "A Jewish State could not become a member of the Arab League because the Jews were not Arabs but they would be happy to co-operate".

From the Arab point of view, it has the merit of avoiding partition and the establishment of a Jewish State. The further immigration which is envisaged would certainly be an obstacle but it is widely believed that the Arabs would be prepared to make a contribution to the problem of persecuted Jewry provided their fundamental rights were safeguarded and other Nations accorded equally generous treatment. As stated above, the fundamental Arab objection to further immigration is the fear of eventual minority status for the Arabs and it is possible that if this objection were overcome on the lines suggested the Arabs would under protest accept a further 100,000 immigrants. Many of the leading Arab statesmen, it is known, would be prepared to accept some sacrifice to achieve a satisfactory solution but would certainly insist on adequate guarantees for the finality of the arrangements. The question of illegal immigration which has strained the resources of the British authorities and which would probably be too great a problem for the Security Forces of the New State even with the collaboration of neighbouring Arab States would call for special consideration but might be solved by United Nations action and if necessary by naval patrols by the Mediterranean Powers (as during the Spanish Civil War). The Arab States would have a considerable safeguard in that they would be in a position to influence the policy of the New State through the Arab half of the population in the same way as they are at present able (and do) influence Lebanese policy through the Moslem elements in the population.

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The New State would also resemble the present Lebanese State in other important respects - the total population would be approximately the same in both cases and would likewise be composed of its two principal communities in equal proportion - and it is possible that the experience gained by the Lebanese of government on a communal basis would be valuable to those responsible for the fate of the New Palestine State.

From the British point of view acceptance of Dominion status by the New State would enable imperial strategic requirements to be met and might make possible satisfactory arrangements in connexion with the Holy Places. If membership of the Commonwealth proves to be impracticable, an alternative might be found in the establishment of treaty relations between Great Britain and the New State. The thorny problem of the Head of the State would however be considered if Dominion status were accepted. Moreover the Jews appear to favour, failing the establishment of a Jewish State, a continued British connexion. Additional financial commitments in the form of additional subsidies to the TransJordan (if the Palestine territory excluded from the New State were absorbed by that country) would be a small price for a satisfactory solution.

There is considerable evidence that both Jews and Arabs are apprehensive of the outcome of the United Nations' deliberations and there is a chance that they might in such a frame of mind (particularly if approached at the psychological moment) be disposed to accept a compromise provided their fundamental interests were safeguarded. The Secretary of State for the Colonies stated at the London Conference "There are only two solutions - partition or some kind of bi-national State". The bi-national State envisaged in the 1939 White Paper was rejected by the Jews; that outlined in the Morrison proposals and the Bevin plan proved to be unacceptable to both Jews and Arabs. The possibility of Jews and Arabs participating on an equal basis in a bi-national State in a reduced Palestine has apparently not been considered. The nearest approach is the suggestion put forward by Sir Edward Grigg for the creation of a Legislative Council in which neither race would have a majority - a suggestion which, from the Arab angle, is open to the objection that the representational basis is contrary to democratic principles.

(Signed) T.E. EVANS.

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Reference
FO 371
 61777

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379

1947

E

PALESTINE

E 4155

1814

17 MAY

Registry Number

E 4155/46/31

FROM

P. Q.

No.

W. Pirated

Dated

Received in Registry

13, May 1947

17 - -

Cont. Minutes of General Thomas
W. Pirated asked J. P. whether he will make
statement on court-martial trial of Col Thomas
arising out of correspondence between Major
Merrill for Mr. E. and himself. Mr. Bellinger
not yet in position to make statement.

Last Paper.

4150

(Minutes.)

19/5

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

2 Emb 20/2

(Index.)

30/6/47

Next Paper.

E 4169

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Reference **FO 371** / 61777

E 4155

Parliamentary Question

Enter

185

* 84. Mr. Piratin, To ask the Secretary of State for War, whether he will make a statement on the court-martial trial of Corporal Thomas, M.E.L.F., at Haifa, arising from the correspondence between the honourable Member for Mile End and himself entered into on 12th February last, with a further reminding letter on 2nd April. *

Com

Mile End

13 MAY 1947

F.O. ARE NOT WANTED TO ADVISE.

ANSWERED 13 MAY 1947.
REF ATTACHED.

44. Mr. Piratin asked the Secretary of State for War whether he will make a statement on the court martial trial of Corporal Thomas, M.E.L.F., at Haifa, arising from the correspondence between the hon. Member for Mile End and himself entered into on 12th February last, with a further reminding letter of 2nd April.

Mr. Bellenger: I regret that I am not yet in a position to make a statement on this case. The proceedings are being kept in the Middle East until the Commander-in-Chief has reviewed the sentences. As soon as I have seen the proceedings I will write to the hon. Member.

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Reference FO 371 / 61777

374

E

186

1947

PALESTINE

E 4109

16 MAY

Registry Number

E 4109/46/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

U. K. Dist.
New York.

Dated

Received in Registry

1389
14, May 1947
16

Palatine. 11 N. Documents.
Refer 20 tel 1424 (E 3509/46/31)
Documents received, asks for further documents.

Last Paper.

4097

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel. New York
1520
22/5

(Action completed.)

ELM 5/6

(Index)

WOT
20/4/48

Next Paper.

E 4112

(Minutes.)
I have asked Mr. Fitzgerald to let me have these
B.V. 23 MAY 16/5

G.P.P. E.N. Fitzgerald C.V.
6 m. Babb 19/5.

I have sent telegram to NEW YORK
B.V. 30 MAY 22/5

G.P.P. New York tel 1411 17/5

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187

Mr. Cable,
Foreign Office.

Dear Cable,

Please find herewith the following documents relating to Palestine which were requested by United Nations Secretariat:-

Five copies of Cmd. 5479
Five copies of Cmd. 5854
One copy of Colonial (48) Cmd. 1989
One copy of C.A.C. 247
(Stockdale report)

Yours sincerely
E. N. Fitzgerald

(E. N. Fitzgerald)
Middle East Department,
Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

19th May, 1947.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61777**

E 4109

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En Clair

FILES.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations).

No. 1389

D: 6.05 p.m. 14th May, 1947

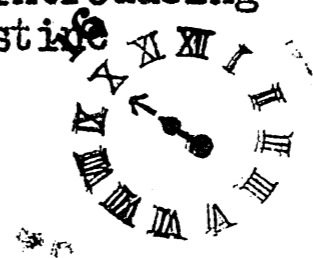
14th May, 1947

R: 12.25 a.m. 15th May, 1947

~~~~~  
Your telegram No. 1424. 3509/uk/h  
Following for Eastern Department. E

Thank you. Documents received.

2. ✓ Can you supply 5 extra copies each of CMD 5479 and 5854 and also one copy each of (a) Colonial 48 CMD 1989, (b) CAC 247, and (c) report by Mr. C.F. Strickland on the possibility of introducing a system of agricultural co-operation in Palestine 1930.



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Reference  
**FO 371**  
61777

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4109 46 31.

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E

EN CLAIR

13 MAY 1947  
FILES

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

INDEXED

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative  
to the United Nations]

D.2.27 p.m. 17th May, 1947.

No.1411  
17th May, 1947.

R.9.45 p.m. 17th May, 1947.

B B B B

My telegram No.1389.

Secretariat most appreciative of your  
co-operation. They will be grateful if you can supply  
three extra copies of the survey on Palestine  
volumes 1 and 2

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References

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3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry No. E4104/46/31 J.E.C.

|               |
|---------------|
| Top Secret.   |
| Secret.       |
| Confidential. |
| Restricted.   |
| Open.         |

Draft.  
U.K. Delegation to U.N.  
NEW YORK

Telegram.  
No. 1520  
(Date) May 20  
Repeat to :-

En Clair.  
Code.  
Cypher.  
Distribution :-

FILES

Copies to :-

OUT FILE

190

F.O.,

194

Despatched 12 M.

Your telegrams NOS. 1389 and 1411 [of 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May: Palestine documents]

Following from Eastern Dept.

2. 5 copies CMD. 5479 and CMD 5854, 1 copy Colonial (48) CMD 1989 and CAC 247 are being despatched in bag no. AF 4 by BOAC service 13A 119 leaving 11 p.m. (DBST) 22nd May.

3. Remaining documents not yet available and will be sent later.

*[Signature]*  
22/5

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E4109/46/31

En Clair

FILES.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK.

(To Permanent United Kingdom Representative to  
the United Nations).

No. 1520

22nd May 1947. D. 12.15 a.m. 23rd May 1947.

V V V

Your telegrams Nos. 1389 and 1411 [of 14th and  
17th May: Palestine documents].

Following from Eastern Department.

2. 5 copies C.M.D.5479 and C.M.D.5854, 1 copy  
Colonial (48) C.M.D.1989 and C.A.C.247 are being  
despatched in bag No. AF4 by B.O.A.C. service  
13A 119 leaving 11 p.m. (DBST) 22nd May.

3. Remaining documents not yet available and  
will be sent later.

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Reference

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61777

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375-



E

E 4112 192

1947

PALESTINE

16 MAY

Registry Number } E4112/46/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. U.K. Del.

Dated New York.

Received in Registry } 13 99

15 May 1947  
16 - -

Potential x U.N.

For Lloyd from Martin  
Martin, on conclusion of Assembly Session V.  
1946, had about informal discussion of arrangements  
with delegation of eleven powers which would  
to be presented as Committee. Given text of  
subsequent conversation with Martin and  
Becker.

Last Paper.

4109

(Minutes.)

U.N. Dept. <sup>410</sup>

Miss Beins  
May 17

References.

a reply has been sent.

(Print.)

RP  
17/5

(How disposed of.)

Tel) New York 1477  
17 May.

g) Mr. Trafford Smith  
C.O.  
✓ May. 21

Tel.) U.K. Del.  
New York  
no. 1478.

17th May  
P.T.O.

(Action completed)

PS  
16/5

(Index)

17/5

Next Paper.

E4113

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Reference

**FO 371**

**61777**

193

e) Sir T. Lloyd ~~Smith~~ } c.o.  
Mr. Trafford Smith  
✓ May. 21

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Reference **FO 371 / 61777**

E 4112 194

16 MAY

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1399.

D. 11.10 p.m. 15th May, 1947.

15th May, 1947.

R. 3.55 a.m. 16th May, 1947.

3 3 3

IMMEDIATE.

GIANT.

Following for Lloyd, Colonial Office, from Martin.

(Begins) On conclusion of Assembly session to-day Victor Hoo who is to be in charge of Palestine Committee Secretariat, had short informal discussion of arrangements with delegates of the eleven powers who will be represented on committee. In subsequent conversation with Beeley and myself he stated that they had decided to hold first meeting in New York on 26th (repeat 26th) May. He could not of course say what programme committee would then decide to adopt but seemed to expect them to hold preliminary meetings in New York for perhaps ten days (primarily for purpose of deciding procedure, though he did not exclude possibility of their receiving evidence here) and then to proceed by air probably to Palestine in the first instance. He did not know if committee would want assistance from representative of His Majesty's Government at these first meetings apart from guidance on practical questions relating to visit to Palestine. He evidently felt that it might be better if His Majesty's Government did not appear to be pressing their views on committee at this early stage in their proceedings. He said that from the point of view of Secretariat it would have been inconvenient to hold the preliminary meetings in Geneva, which is in any case at present crowded owing to other conferences, but seems to expect that committee will eventually meet in Geneva to draw up their report.

2. In the circumstances, Beeley and I feel that best course would probably be for us to return by "Queen Elizabeth" sailing 24th May (as we had already arranged when it seemed likely that Assembly would last, until next week), maintaining contact with United Nations

Secretariat/

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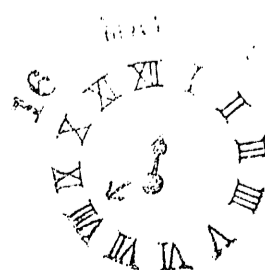
Reference

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- 2 -

Secretariat (whose arrangements are to-day only at preliminary stage) and that MacGillivray should arrive here by 26th May or as soon as convenient thereafter so as to be available to answer any enquiries from committee. So far as we can judge at the moment it should not be necessary for you to send a more senior representative to give evidence on behalf of His Majesty's Government at the preliminary meetings in New York, so either Beeley or I or both of us could of course stay on (e.g. until sailing of Mauretania 31st May) if this is thought desirable.

Hee thought that party visiting Palestine was unlikely to number much under 100 (repeat 100). Suggest Palestine should be warned and asked to confirm that this is within absorptive capacity of hotels. Please also ask High Commissioner to telegraph to delegation information (for which Hee has asked) regarding climatic conditions in June and July, clothes required (e.g. dinner jackets?) and requirements as regards vaccination and inoculation.

(Ends).

[Advance copies sent to Telegraph Section,  
Colonial Office].

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References  
**FO 371 / 61777**

Registry No.

Top Secret  
Secret  
Confidential  
Restricted  
Open

Draft telegram to

Sir A. Cadogan  
New York  
1477

May 17

Cypher

No 1 Dept at

Copy  
The Staff of the  
C.O.

OUT FILE

17/5 1966

Immediate

Following for Beeley from Baxter.

Please see telegram no: ~~1478E~~

containing message from Lloyd to Martin.

~~We suggest~~ ~~Do not suggest~~ ~~We would suggest~~ that there

might ~~be~~ be advantage in your staying on in New York at any rate for the observing meetings of the Committee ~~if~~ ~~case they need your help or guidance to assist them in getting started on the right lines.~~

It seems very desirable that they should get started on the right lines, and your help might be very useful to them even at this early stage.

[Copy sent to M.C. Sec.]

17/5

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(1855) W. 10998-114 200m 2/47 G.S.S. Cop. 620

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Restricted

Cypher OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1477

17th May 1947. D. 3.40 p.m. 17th May 1947.

IMMEDIATE

TTTTTT

Following for Beeley from Baxter.

Please see telegram No. 1478 containing message from Lloyd to Martin.

We suggest that there might be advantage in your staying on in New York at any rate for the opening meetings of the Committee.

It seems very desirable that they should get started on the right lines, and your help might be very useful to them even at this early stage.

[Copy sent to M.E. Secretariat].

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Reference

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198

Top Secret  
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Open

F. O.,

194

Despatched 3 40 P M.

Draft.

Sir A. Cadogan  
New York.

IMMEDIATE

Telegram.

CLAMP

No. 1478

(Date) May 17.

Repeat to :-

M.I.P.T.

Following from Lloyd, Colonial Office for  
Martin. Begins.

Thank you for your message contained in  
New York telegram No. 1399.

We are at once telegraphing to Palestine  
asking the High Commissioner to arrange if  
possible that MacGillivray shall fly to  
New York via the U.K. so as to be there on the  
26th May or as soon as possible thereafter.

We are also raising the questions of climate,  
clothes and inoculation requirements mentioned  
in your last paragraph.

Since the meetings of the Palestine  
Committee for the 10 days after assembling on  
May 26th are expected to be confined primarily  
to procedural points and to the obtaining of  
advice on practical problems it seems so far as  
we are able to judge here that it is unnecessary  
to ask you to stay on for those meetings.

If you have special reasons for wishing to  
return by the Queen Elizabeth sailing 24th by  
all means keep to your present plans. But if  
not, would it be possible for you to fly home

/on

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

~~En Clair.~~  
~~Code.~~  
Cypher.

Distribution :-

No / Dept at

Copies to :-

Colonial Office:

Sir T. Lloyd

Mr. Trafford Smith

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61777

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on about 21st or 22nd. That would enable you to give MacGillivray the full background before he leaves for New York and I feel that this briefing by you might be particularly helpful to him. *Endg o*

*mmf 11/5*

*[Copy sent to Mr. (See)]*

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200

Secret.

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK.

(To Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations).

No. 1478  
17th May 1947

D. 3.40 p.m. 17th May 1947.

PPP

IMMEDIATE

My immediately preceding telegram.

Following from Lloyd, Colonial Office for Martin.

[Begins].

Thank you for your message contained in New York telegram No. 1399.

We are at once telegraphing to Palestine asking the High Commissioner to arrange if possible that MacGillivray shall fly to New York via the United Kingdom so as to be there on the 26th May or as soon as possible thereafter. We are also raising the questions of climate, clothes and inoculation requirements mentioned in your last paragraph.

Since the meetings of the Palestine Committee for the 10 days after assembling on May 26th are expected to be confined primarily to procedural points and to the obtaining of advice on practical problems it seems so far as we are able to judge here that it is unnecessary to ask you to stay on for these meetings.

If you have special reasons for wishing to return by the Queen Elizabeth sailing 24th by all means keep to your present plans. But if not, would it be possible for you to fly home on about 21st or 22nd. That would enable you to give MacGillivray the full background before he leaves for New York and I feel that this briefing by you might be particularly helpful to him.

[Ends].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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E 4113

201

1947

PALESTINE

16 MAY

Registry Number } E 4113/46/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No. C. K. Dept  
New York.

Dated } 1400  
Received in Registry } 15, May 1947  
16 - -

Palestine, and U.N.

Refers New York tel 1388  
U.N. Gen Assembly met today on May 14  
and concluded its work on 15. The draft  
resolution submitted by Arab Committee was  
adopted 45, vote 6. The five Arabs  
together with the Turkish and Afghan  
delegates cast negative vote and abstained.

Last Paper.

4112.

References.

(Minutes.)

Gromyko's comparatively reasonable  
Statement has caused much  
interest. His Gov. are clearly  
at pains to keep on the fence

(Print.)

W.N. Dept. <sup>END</sup>

J.S. Smith  
May 19  
(BEITIF)

(How disposed of.)

14 New York to 1459  
May 16.

N. Dept. 29/5.

R.P.  
19/5

(Action completed.)

J.E. Morgan

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

E 4115

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Reference FO 371 / 61777

E 4113

202

6 MAY

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1400.

D. 8.45 p.m. 15th May, 1947.

15th May, 1947.

R. 3.35 a.m. 16th May, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem (Important)  
Moscow,  
Washington - Saving.

-----

IMPORTANT.

GIANT.

My telegram No. 1388. E 4051/46/31  
Palestine.

The General Assembly met twice on the 14th May and concluded its work on the 15th. The draft resolution submitted by the First Committee was adopted by 45 votes against 7 with 1 abstention. The five Arabs together with the Turkish and Afghan Delegates cast negative votes and Siam abstained. The text of the Resolution is contained in my immediately following telegram.

2. The Norwegian Delegate moved the following resolution: "The General Assembly calls upon all Governments and peoples and particularly upon the inhabitants of Palestine to refrain, pending action by the General Assembly on the report of the Special Committee on Palestine, from the threat or use of force or any other action which might create an atmosphere prejudicial to an early settlement of the question of Palestine". This was adopted without opposition, the Arab Delegates alone abstaining from the vote.

3. The most interesting speech of the Plenary Session was made by Gromyko. After saying that "the aspirations of important part of the Jewish people are bound up with the question of Palestine" and that no state in Western Europe had been able to defend the Jewish people against Hitler, he stated that it was impossible to justify a denial of the Jewish people's right to a state of their own. This should be studied by the Committee which should make appropriate proposals.

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References  
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4. "I come now" Gromyko continued, "to the question of the future of Palestine". Both Arabs and Jews had historical roots in the country and now occupied an important position there. No solution which ignored the lawful rights of either people could be justified. A single bi-national state with equal rights for Jews and Arabs is "the solution most deserving attention". But if this was found to be impracticable owing to the nature of the relations between the two peoples, the alternative of partition would have to be considered.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem (Important) and Moscow as my telegrams Nos. 13 and 194.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem. Repeated to Moscow].

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I.  
P.  
G.

OUT FILE.

204

F. O.,

May 1947.

Despatched 9.40 P. M.

Draft.

New York,  
U.K. Delegation.

~~IMMEDIATE~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Telegram.

No. 1459  
(Date) May 16<sup>th</sup>

Repeat to :—

Your telegram No. 1400 [ of 15th May:  
Palestine ].

Following for Beeley from Eastern Department.

We presume that there is no question now of an Assembly resolution referring specifically to illegal immigration (compare our telegram No. 1421).

2. Please report urgently therefore date on which Secretary-General is likely to be issuing the letter to all the United Nations on the subject of illegal immigration as we wish to make the necessary arrangements for appropriate publicity at this end.

[ Copy sent to Sec. Secretariat ]

16/5

~~EXCLUDED~~  
Code.  
Cypher.

Distribution :—

Departmental No.1.

Copies to :—

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OUT FILE

205

CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To Permanent United Kingdom Representative to  
the United Nations)

No. 1,459.

D: 9.40 p.m. 16th May, 1947.

16th May, 1947.

@@@ @@@ @@@

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 1,400 [of 15th May: Palestine].

Following for Beeley from Eastern Department.

We presume that there is no question now of an  
Assembly resolution referring specifically to illegal immi-  
gration (compare our telegram No. 1,421).

2. Please report urgently therefore date on which  
Secretary-General is likely to be issuing the letter  
to all the United Nations on the subject of illegal  
immigration as we wish to make the necessary arrange-  
ments for appropriate publicity at this end.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

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References  
**FO 371 / 61777**

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E

F 4115

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PALESTINE

10 MAY

Registry Number } E 4115/46/31  
 TELEGRAM FROM  
 No. U.K. Del.  
 Dated New York  
 Received in Registry } 1401  
 15, May 1948  
 16

Palstine, Special Committee.  
 Refer - New York tel 1400 (E 4115/46/31)  
 through list of resolution by General Assembly, re constituting and instructing a special committee to prepare for the consideration at the next regular session of the Assembly a report on Palestine.

Last Paper.  
 4113.

(Minutes.)

References.

R. G. Gannan  
 16/5  
 17/5

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

In P.P. 4-D. Straute, W. Gannan, 23/5

B. June 2

In P.P. 60-6d 1057 25/5  
 P'stine tel 1046 27/5

B. June 6

(Action completed.)  
 G. E. M. 20/5

(Index.)  
 [Signature] 20/5

Next Paper.  
 E 4120

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En Clair

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the  
United Nations) 207

No. 1401

D. 9.56 p.m. 15th May, 1947.

15th May, 1947.

R. 4.45 a.m. 16th May, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem Important  
Moscow  
Washington Saving

///

E 4115

IMPORTANT

GIANT

My immediately preceding telegram.

Following is text of resolution:

Whereas the General Assembly of the United Nations has been called into special session for the purpose of constituting and instructing a special committee to prepare for the consideration at the next regular session of the Assembly a report on the question of Palestine, the General Assembly resolves that

1. A special committee be created for the above mentioned purpose consisting of the representatives of Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, India, Iran, Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, Uruguay and Yugoslavia
2. The special committee shall have the widest powers to ascertain and record facts and to investigate all questions and issues relevant to the problem of Palestine
3. The special committee shall determine its own procedure
4. The special committee shall conduct investigations in Palestine and wherever it may deem useful receive and examine written or oral testimony whichever it may consider appropriate in each case from the mandatory power from representatives of the population of Palestine from governments and from such organisations and individuals as it may deem necessary.
5. The special committee shall give most careful consideration to the religious interests in Palestine of Islam, Judaism and Christianity
6. The special committee shall prepare a report to the General Assembly and shall submit such proposals as it may consider appropriate for the solution of the problem of Palestine

/7. The

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7. The special committee's report shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not later than 1st September, 1947 in order that it may be circulated to the members of the United Nations in time for consideration by the second regular session of the General Assembly

8. The General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to enter into suitable arrangements with the proper authorities of any State in whose territory the committee may wish to sit or to travel to provide necessary facilities and to assign appropriate staff to the commission

9. Authorizes the Secretary-General to re-imburse travel and subsistence expenses of a representative and an alternate representative from each government represented on the committee on such basis and in such form as he may determine most appropriate in the circumstances.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem (important) and Moscow as my telegrams Nos. 14 and 195.

[Repeated to Moscow by Foreign Office]

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

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Reference

**FO 371** / **61777**

INDEXED

209

Sir Orme Sargent

PALESTINE AND THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

The special Assembly of the United Nations concluded its work on 15th May with the adoption of a resolution providing for the setting up of a fact-finding Committee and setting out its terms of reference. The text of the resolution is contained in E 4115 - Flag A.

This resolution, which is based on the original American draft, seems quite satisfactory. The Assembly resisted attempts by the Soviet Delegation and by the Jewish Agency to insert undesirable amendments.

Sir A. Cadogan is not, however, very happy about the composition of the fact-finding Committee, the members of which were, at the last moment, increased from seven to eleven\* (by the inclusion of Yugoslavia, Guatemala, India and Australia) at Soviet insistence, to which the United States Delegation surrendered. At Sir A. Cadogan's suggestion, we have made representations to the Guatemalans, Uruguayans, Peruvian and Czech Governments, with a view to ensuring that their representatives on the Committee will be good men, who will take a satisfactory line. It appears from reports from Montevideo, Guatemala, Lima and Prague that these representations have been reasonably successful, except in the case of Guatemala.

The fact-finding Committee is holding its first meeting in New York on 26th May. It is expected that meetings in New York will last for about ten days, but that they will be confined to procedural matters. In any case Mr. Beeley is staying on in New York, at any rate for the time being, in case he can be of assistance to the Committee, and Mr. MacGillivray, of the Palestine administration is also proceeding to New York. The Committee will then transfer to Palestine, to investigate the question on the spot, after which it is expected to retire to Geneva to draw up its report.

We are deferring, for the time being, further consideration of the composition of the British "team of experts" to give evidence before the Committee, but we have the matter in mind.

Generally speaking, the Jews are very pleased with the way things have gone in New York, while the Arabs are despondent, - so much so in fact that there is a tendency among the Arab delegates in New York to advise their Governments to boycott the Committee of enquiry.

Considerable/

x (the full list is given at Flag A)

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Considerable interest was aroused in the closing stages of the Assembly meeting by a speech by Mr. Gromyko in which he said "no solution which ignored the lawful rights of either people could be justified. A single bi-national state with equal rights for Jews and Arabs was the solution most deserving of attention." But if this was found to be impracticable owing to the nature of the relations between the two peoples, the alternative of partition would have to be considered. There has been much speculation by both Arabs and Jews as to the meaning of the speech, which the Jews seem to be taking as something of a promise that they will eventually get Soviet support for partition. Mr. Beeley, in a private letter, has expressed his personal view that Mr. Gromyko is preparing the way for a Russian proposal, at a later stage, for some form of joint trusteeship in which the Russians would be associated.

On the whole, I think it can be said that the proceedings at New York went as well as could be expected, but that there may be unsatisfactory developments in store for us. There seems to have been a considerable body of feeling in New York in favour of ending the British mandate, whatever might be devised to take its place. We have not, however, had any observations from the Delegation on this point.

*R. G. G. G.*  
23rd May, 1947.

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**INWARD TELEGRAM**

212

*mw*

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A.  
Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 27th May, 1947.  
R. 27th " " 22.20 hrs.

No. 1046 Confidential.

(?Your telegram No. 1057).

Following for Trafford  
Smith from Gurney. Begins.

Official terms of  
reference have been published. We  
should, however, be glad to receive  
any further items of official  
information e.g. the names of  
delegates, which we have so far  
had only from press sources. Ends.

SECRET

Foreign Office - Eastern Dept.

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373

E

213

1947

PALESTINE

E 4007

16 MAY

Registry Number

E 4097/46/21

FROM

F.O.

No.

Minute

Dated

A. Butler.

Received in Registry

9. May 1947

16

article by Mr Crossman.

Discusses whether anything can usefully be done re article by Mr Crossman on 'America and Palestine', in connection with his open reference to Mr Bealey.

Last Paper.

4055

(Minutes.)

Mr Bealey on screen HB-1016

JB May 16

References.

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PRIVATE SECRETARY.

16 MAY

Eastern Department have enquired whether anything can be usefully said to Mr. Crossman, who is obviously the author of the attached article on "America and Palestine", in connection with his open reference to Mr. Beeley.

It is of course not true that Mr. Beeley is British representative in New York - our representatives are Sir Alexander Cadogan, Mr. Ivor Thomas and Mr. Martin - and there is therefore no question of his pleading any case in public. ~~But~~ the real point of course is this criticism by name of a civil servant.

I know that Mr. Crossman has sinned before in this way in connection with individual members of the Foreign Office. I do not know what, if anything, it was thought possible to do on previous occasions.

Minister of State might be asked to comment.

*M Butler*

9th May, 1947.

Minister of State first.

Mr Crossman could only be the person could not be approached  
approached in connection with the results he would rebut charges  
by M.P. Mr Crossman has by M.P. the person has replied, this is an  
witness. This, in my opinion, almost is not one of them.

Private Secretary.

Three

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

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## AMERICA AND PALESTINE

THE failure of the Great Powers to solve the German problem gives an added interest to the special Uno Assembly which began this week. Will the nations in conclave fare better than the Big Four? Palestine is certainly a more complex and baffling problem even than Germany. Indeed, it involves a whole series of problems, superimposed on one another: the clash of rights between an astonishing Socialist experiment in overseas settlement and an indigenous people, just awaking from medieval decadence; the struggle of world Jewry against the Arab world; the conflict of religions, and finally the power politics of great Empires. No severer test of peace-making in public assembly could have been conceived.

Only the failures of British statesmanship have made it necessary to refer this problem to Uno. Eighteen months ago British prestige in the Middle East was at its height and the Arab States, remembering their shady war record, were in a passive mood. In the autumn of 1945 Mr. Bevin could have imposed either partition or a unitary solution which gave the Jews responsibility for immigration into their own part of the country. As late as last May he could have imposed the unanimous recommendations of the Anglo-American Committee. But purposeful indecision has made a solution more difficult month by month, until to-day Palestine is an object lesson in the abuse of Mandatory power, and its Jewish and Arab inhabitants agree in one thing only, their loathing for the foreign army and officials who occupy the country which both so fiercely claim.

It is unlikely, however, that the Assembly will concern itself very deeply with the rights and wrongs of Palestine. The Russians no doubt will take the opportunity for propaganda about British Imperialism. A few of the smaller Powers, since justice is impossible, may try to discover where the lesser injustice lies. But inevitably the human problems of the Jewish survivors in Europe and of the Arab fellahin will be overlaid by the complexities of Middle Eastern politics. Any agreement which the Assembly may reach will be more concerned with the balance of power than with justice or human happiness. In a world divided into rival blocs, the Jewish National Home, unrepresented in the Assembly which is to decide its fate, will only survive if its survival is of decided advantage to one side or to the other. Since the U.S.S.R. has nothing to gain by supporting it, its fate depends on the attitude of America and Britain.

It has often been assumed in this country that the U.S.A. will come forward as the champion of the National Home. The President, both Houses of Congress, both political Parties, are all solemnly pledged to do so, and the American press has been unanimous in its denunciation of the British failure to establish a Jewish commonwealth. Britain has spoken with two voices to Jew and Arab and has been rightly condemned for duplicity. For twenty-five years America has a consistent record—at least in public—of political and financial support for the Jews of Palestine.

Yet it is almost certain that in New York, faced at long last with the necessity for making good these solemn promises, Mr. Marshall will equivocate as shabbily as any British statesman—and for precisely the same reasons. The threat of going over to the enemy has never yet failed the Arab diplomats in dealing with the Western world. In 1939 it gave them the White Paper. In 1945, within a few weeks of Germany's defeat and the Labour Party's solemn reaffirmation of its Zionist policy, Mr. Bevin succumbed to it once again in order to keep them out of the arms of Russia. Will Mr. Marshall in 1947 fare any better? Having decided that Middle Eastern oil is a vital American interest, he too is faced by the conflict between his pledged word to a homeless people and the strategic necessity of appeasing the Arab League.

It is this fact which gives to the special

Assembly its peculiar dramatic interest. The Arab States are seeking to prevent the setting up of a fact-finding Committee and hope to obtain an immediate decision in favour of an independent Arab Palestine. In this they are over-optimistic. It is true that Mr. Beeley, Mr. Bevin's chief advisor, now in New York as British representative, has shown an unwavering loyalty to the Arab League, but Mr. Bevin is too shrewd to permit his impetuous expert to plead in public the case to which he is so passionately attached. The Foreign Secretary's aim is not to rush a decision in favour of the Arabs but to obtain overt American assent to a solution which maintains British rule in Palestine and disposes of the Jewish aspiration to a Commonwealth.

Mr. Marshall is well aware of the dangers ahead. So far he has refused to commit himself to anything but the laconic statement that American policy is unchanged. He will maintain this reserve for as long as possible, hoping that the partition proposal, which he must support in order to placate American Jewry, will be put forward by a Central American satellite after the fact-finding committee has reported. Then, when he has seen the reaction of the Assembly to partition, he can decide how best to proceed.

It is obviously better policy for America to give another loan to Britain and so enable her to remain the dominant Power in the Middle East rather than to accept any military and political responsibility in the area. To the general dislike of unlimited foreign commitments are added in the case of Palestine special reasons for keeping out. Mr. Marshall knows that no proposals he may make can conceivably satisfy both the American Chiefs of Staff and American public opinion. The more closely he studies the Middle East, the more reluctant will he be to mix himself up in the Palestine problem. If Mr. Bevin shows any inclination to maintain British rule in Palestine and can be induced to accept a compromise solution which absolves America from interference, Mr. Marshall will seek to push it through Uno. The best arrangement from his point of view would be the rejection of partition, despite American support, and the continuance of British rule under a new Trusteeship Agreement severely restricting Jewish immigration. Britain would continue to provide the soldiers and to receive the odium, while the American public would continue to exercise the privilege of booing the British from the sidelines.

The most likely result of the Assembly, therefore, is a Pyrrhic victory for Mr. Bevin—a decision to leave Britain in charge of Palestine because no one else wants the job of suppressing the Jews, but nearly everyone has an interest in courting the Arabs. It is to be hoped that the Cabinet is fully aware of this danger. Nothing can prevent the U.S.A. from becoming the dominant economic Power in the Middle East. She has the dollars and the only issue is whether she will use them wisely and can be induced to accept some political and military responsibility. She will certainly not do so, so long as Mr. Bevin shows any anxiety to play the role of the leading Western Power in the area.

The conclusion is obvious enough. The British representatives at the Assembly should make it clear that, whatever the Assembly decides, Britain will no longer administer Palestine. Here justice and expediency coincide. A British police State in which civil liberties have been destroyed and two adult peoples subjected to arbitrary colonial rule is something no Socialist Government—indeed no British Government—can afford to maintain. Nor can we afford to keep 100,000 soldiers, 15,000 policemen and a large part of our Navy on the detestable job of preventing the survivors of the Concentration Camps from escaping to the only community willing to receive them. In 1937 the Peel Commission decided that the Mandate was unworkable. This is even truer to-day. One thing, at least, therefore, should be beyond ques-

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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